

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. Mode.
W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Chronicle

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZSHAH M. MEHTA IN 1913.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE LATEST
B.S.A. W
Price Rs. 126/- complete.
Wellington Cycle & Motor Co.,
Hornby Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

XOL XVI NO 76—

BOMBAY WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1927

ONE ANNA

SHIPPING

P. & O. BRITISH INDIA.

(Incorporated in England.)

MAIL & PASSENGERS SERVICE.

P. and O. SAILINGS TO PLYMOUTH AND LONDON CALLING AT MARSEILLE.

All passengers are required to be in possession of passports.

Date.	Steamers.	Connecting at Aden with	Tons.
1927			
2 Apr.	NARKUNDA.		16,227
9 "	RANGOON.		16,650
16 "	RAZMAK.		16,602
23 "	RAJPUTANA.		16,568
30 "	MOOLTAN.		20,847
7 May	RAJWALPINDI.		16,618
14 "	RAZMAK.	MALWA.	16,940
21 "	RANPURA.		16,585
28 "	DELTA.	MALWA.	30,837
4 June	KAISAR-I-HIND.		11,430
11 "	RAZMAK.	MOBEA.	10,918
18 "	CHINA.		7,962
25 "	RAZMAK.	NALDERA.	15,993
2 July	RAJPUTANA.		16,568
9 "	RAZMAK.	MANTUA.	10,902
16 "	MALWA.		10,940
23 "	RAZMAK.	MONGOLIA.	16,504
30 "	RANPURA.		16,585

X Through steamers from Australia have limited accommodation for passengers from India.

* Through steamers from China have limited accommodation for passengers from India. Terminates voyage at Marseilles.

† First Class Passengers only.

SPECIAL OFF SEASON RETURN TICKETS.

First Saloon Return Tickets at Special Reduced Rates will be issued for any Mail Steamer during the period commencing from Bombay with the sailing of the S.S. "KAISAR-I-HIND" on the 4th June 1927 and terminating with the steamer due in Bombay on the 23rd September. The accommodation allotted will be the best available in the First Saloon at the time of application. The fares will be as follows:—
To London and back by sea £108
To London and back via Marseilles including P. and O. Special Train Across France in both directions £120
To Marseilles and back £100

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.

Bombay to Port Said and Plymouth.

Date about.	Steamers.	Tons.
-------------	-----------	-------

1927		
14th April	MARGHA	8,288
12th May	BOMALA	8,441
7th July	DUNAN	8,427
21st "	MERKARA	8,285

On most of the P. & O. Mail steamers and on the B.L. Home Line Steamers Cots for Infants are available at a charge of £3 for the voyage. Application for these Cots should be made well in advance.

P. & O. SAILINGS TO COLOMBO STRAITS, CHINA, JAPAN & AUSTRALIA

Date	Steamers.	Tons.
------	-----------	-------

1927		
29th March	NELLORE	China & Japan
31st "	MALWA	For Colombo & Australia.
12th April	BYANZA	China & Japan
	MOLDAVIA	At Colombo for Australia.
7th June	NELLORE	China & Japan
	CATHAY	At Colombo for Australia.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS TO AFRICA, KARACHI, PERSIAN GULF, TUTICORIN, COLOMBO, MADRAS, CALCUTTA & RANGOON.

Date	Steamers.	Tons.
------	-----------	-------

1927		
30th Mar.	BARALA	Bursh via Karachi & Persian Gulf Ports.
30th "	KHANDALLA	East & S. Africa.
1st April	CHAKLA	Bursh via Karachi.
4th "	VITA	Karachi via Katala-war ports.

There will be sailings for Karachi on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays every week. Local passengers for Karachi can only proceed by the Friday sailings when accommodation is not required for passengers on the P. and O. Mail steamer or through passengers to Bursh.

Terms and Rates of Freight and Passage may be arranged with

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.,
Ballard Road, Fort, Bombay.

SHIPPING

N. Y. K. LINE

SINGAPORE CHINA & JAPAN.

Steamers.	Tons.	Arrival.	Departure
Hankow Maru ..	4104	20 Mar.	1 April.
Moji Maru ..	3757	21 "	8 "
Sado Maru ..	5893	31 "	11 "
Akita Maru ..	3817	4 April	16 "
Genoa Maru ..	6735	14 "	29 "
Tamba Maru ..	5845	29 "	12 May

* Passenger Steamer.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Canada Building, Hornby Road, Bombay
Phone No. 20279. Telegrams: "Yusen".

THE SCINDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICES BETWEEN

1. Rangoon, Bombay, Karachi, via Malabar.
2. Rangoon, Madras, Colombo.
3. Calcutta and Karachi via East Ports.
4. Rangoon, Calcutta, according to demand.

For freights and other particulars apply to:—

Messrs. NAROTTAM MORARJEE & CO.,
Agents,
Ballard Est. Co., BOMBAY

TO SECURE

Growth of perfect health, purity of body and nobleness of soul, please go through our booklet

"BRAHMA CHARYA"

(Continence)

Sent gratis and post free on writing to:—

Atank Nigrah Pharmacy,
JAMNAGAR.

AMRUTANJAN

Is the last word in the cure for aches and pains. 25 years of increasing sales prove this fact.

AMRUTANJAN

Is the only Indian pain balm used in millions of homes. It certainly

CURES ALL

aches, pains, swelling, sprain, stiff joints, cold, cough, cuts, bruises, chilblains, rheumatism, backache and a host of other pain troubles. Just 10 Acres, Sold Everywhere.

It kills and cures all

ACHES AND PAINS

When You Spend so much for Your Clothes

ARAUJO FERNANDES & CO.

MERCHANT TAILORS.

PRINCESS STREET BOMBAY

The Bombay Chronicle

BUSINESS NOTICE.

BUSINESS communications of every kind (advertisements, changes of address, etc.) should be addressed to the MANAGER. Advertisements intended for insertion in the next day's paper must reach the office not later than 5 p. m.

ALL REMITTANCES should be made payable to the "Bombay Chronicle" and cheques crossed.

MOFUSIL SUBSCRIBERS whose copies of the "Bombay Chronicle" are delayed in delivery will facilitate enquiry into the cause of the irregularity by noting the date of the paper on the wrapper and sending it to the Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

	Local.	Mofussil.
Daily Edition.		
1 Year ..	Ra. 20	Ra. 25
6 Months ..	Ra. 10	Ra. 12-8
3 Months ..	Ra. 5	Ra. 6-4
1 Month ..	Ra. 1-14	Ra. 2-4

Subscription for Foreign Countries Rs. 50 per year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

SUNDAY EDITION

	Local.	Mofussil.	Foreign
Yearly ..	Ra. 3/8	Ra. 4	Ra. 7

PAYMENTS STRICTLY IN ADVANCE

The Sunday Edition must be subscribed for not less than one year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers who do not receive their copy of "The Chronicle" in time are requested kindly to furnish the following information to the Manager, Subscription Department:—

Date of paper

Time of delivery

Name of Subscriber

Address

Register No.

INSURANCE

Western India Life Insurance Co., Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:—Satara City.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

Valuation.	Year.	Surplus disclosed.
First	1917	Ra. 11,538
Second	1924	Ra. 27,787
Third	1925	Ra. 1,16,544

No other Company started within 25 years could show equal results at the same age. Excellent opportunity for reliable energetic men of position and ability to represent the Company.

For agency and other particulars please apply to:—

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
Satara City.

A-1 TAILORING

AT MODERATE RATES

A Personal visit to our establishment will satisfy you of facts.

The latest style in suiting for Winter and Summer wear. High Class workmanship. Perfect finish. Expert trained Cutter. Complete Outfitting and Travelling Goods at the most Reliable Prices.

FOREIGN MONEY EXCHANGED
Curios, High Grade NILGIRI TEA
AND
PURE EUCALYPTUS OIL.

E. I. DALVI & Co.

Proprietors of The New Bombay Tailoring Co.
67, ESPLANADE ROAD,
Opp: Bombay Club, BOMBAY.

EYE TROUBLES

of any kind—Itis, Erys, Watery Eye, Corneal Ulcer, redness, etc. Even Cataract Glaucoma Granular lid cured without knife by our Copo-nut Brand "Lotus Honey"—genuine and purest in market. Cure guaranteed. Dram Rs. 2-8 2 Drams Rs. 4. For free particulars to:—
NEW FORMULA Co., Kandi, Bengal.
Tel: "Ulcen", Kandi.
Agent: A. T. GIDVANI 2 Gungoa St. KARACHI.

INSURANCE

NATIONAL

INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—7 Church Lane, CALCUTTA.

BONUS TO POLICY HOLDERS.

In the Valuation as at 31st December 1925 a comparison of Assets with Liabilities shows a

Surplus of Rs. 8,40,044 enabling Bonuses to be paid at the following rates in respect of the past four years:—
Rs. 15 per year per Rs. 1000 Sum Assured for Whole Life Assurance Policies.
Rs. 10 per year per Rs. 1000 Sum Assured for Endowment Assurance Policies.

Provision has been made for Interim Bonuses.

PRESENT POSITION OF THE COMPANY.

LIFE FUNDS

at the end of 1925—Rs. 82,70,303. Premium Income for 1925 .. Rs. 16,46,000.

Rate of Interest earned on mean Fund of 1925 Rs. 6-10-6 % net

Rate anticipated in the Valuation calculation Rs. 4-0-0 % net

Difference being Interest profit Rs. 2-10-6

Low Premiums. Prompt Claim Settlements. Undoubted Security.

APPLY TO:—BRANCH SECRETARY, Airo Building, Hornby Road, Fort BOMBAY.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

One Rupee

per day can get you at age 25

LIFE INSURANCE

or Rs. TEN THOUSAND with profits - (estimated at Rs. 3,000)

payable to you when you are aged 55 or to your heirs in case of premature death.

INQUIRE AT THE

INDUSTRIAL & PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE Co., Ltd.

Jehangir Wadia Building, Esplanade Road, Fort, BOMBAY.

INSURE WITH:—

THE PIONEERS OF LIFE ASSURANCE WORK IN BENGAL

THE HINDU MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE, Ltd.

Trustee—Govt. Official Trustee.

No Share-holders—(Established 1891)—No Capitalists

CLAIMS PAID OVER Rs. 5,00,000. COMPARED WITH OTHERS, ITS Great Age, Security, Management and Absolutely THE LOWEST RATES INSURANCE OVER Rs. 4,00,000.

No promise of Reversionary Bonus. But Cash Bonus in the shape of difference on premium with the bonus giving offices with every payment of premium.

For particulars Apply to:—

P. C. RAY, M. A., B. L. Secretary, 235/10, Bowbazar St., CALCUTTA.

RAO BAHADUR ANANT SHIWAJI DESAI, TOPIWALLA
MOTIBAZAR, BOMBAY 2.
TELEGRAMS: ALUMINIUM, BOMBAY. TELEPHONE: 25831.

The Leading Firm for LION BRAND ALUMINIUM and SUPERIOR GERMAN SILVER WARES of all sizes and descriptions, aluminium circles and German Silver wire and sheets.

The Oldest Dealers in CAPS OF ALL KINDS and embroidered satin and velvet and other fancy clothes for Children.

Sole Agents for THE WORLD-FAMOUS RAJA-RAVI-VARMA PICTURES and Dealers in pictures frames and other accessories.

The Cheapest Place for Satin, Brocade, Cotton and Silk Velvet and Velveteen, Mohair plush, Seal Skin plush, broad Cloth, Melton, etc.

BUSINESS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. TERMS CASH OR V.P.P. CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

Bombay Widows' Pension Fund, Ltd.

ESTABLISHED 1876.
NO. 35, MEDOWS STREET, Behind Currency Bank.
FUNDED CAPITAL RS. 2,72,700.
Investments in Government and Approved Securities only.
Perfect Economy in management. The supervision as to Rates, Mortality, Investigation and Valuation was entrusted to an experienced European Actuary.
The object is to make provisions for the widows of subscribers to a monthly pension from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 without distinction of caste or creed. Rates of subscription are very moderate. 30 per cent. surrender value in case the wife pre-deceased. Twelve months' grace if occupation is lost. 25 per cent. Commission to Carriers on First 12 months' subscription.
For details apply for a Copy of Rules to: GAJANAN SADANAND DESAI, Secretary and Treasurer.

CLASSIFIED ADVT.

Readers, Private Short Advertisements are inserted in these columns at the following rates :-

HALF ANNA

PER WORD.

CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER.

The full name and address of the advertiser is required, not necessarily for publication.

Advertisers who do not wish their names and addresses published will be given a Box number. The words: Apply Box No., Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle," to be paid for.

Answers to advertisements should be addressed as follows :- Box Number - Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle" Office, Bombay.

Unclaimed replies to advertisements are destroyed after one month.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED-M. A.'s & E. A.'s strong in languages (Sanskrit) and History. Qualified men preferred. Apply stating least salary to SHREE SARASWATI HIGH SCHOOL, Nadiad. R147

WHY HANKER AFTER JOBS-Earn Rs. 100-200 monthly by a simple home industry. Brochure containing full particulars for only two annas stamps from "THE HOME INDUSTRIES DEPOT," Jorowarnagar (Kathiawar). R153

WANTED-CANDIDATES for Telegraph and Station Master's Classes. Full particulars and Railway Fare Certificate on 2 annas stamp. Apply to:- IMPERIAL TELEGRAPH COLLEGE, Delhi. R152

WANTED-AGENTS and WHOLESALE DEALERS of Buttons. Sample for Rs. 2, refundable if disapproved. YOUNGMAN & CO., 58, Patlakhan Lane, Dacca. R121

WANTED-A few CANVASSERS and COMMISSION AGENTS for selling shares of a limited concern. Apply to the MANAGER, The Sanda Motor Works and Service, Ltd., 115, Swallow Lane Calcutta. 28349

EDUCATIONAL.

ACCOUNTANCY DIPLOMA courses by post, Tuition free. Exam. in June. Apply prospectus. C. C. EDUCATION, P.O. Jannar, POONA. R3673

PHOTOGRAPHY.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs of general interest are invited from readers from all parts of India for publication in "The Chronicle." Preference will be given to topical photographs on subjects of political, general, engineering, scientific or other interest. Accepted photographs will be paid for on publication, at usual rates.

The Editor undertakes no responsibility for the return of unaccepted photographs, but every endeavour will be made to return rejected photographs, accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes. All photographs must be sent to the

EDITOR,
"Bombay Chronicle,"
Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.

HOUSES & FLATS TO LET

TO LET-1st Floor and 3rd Floor of Mahomed Building, opp. Excelsior Theatre, Station Road, Fort. HAJEE MAHOMED ABBA & CO., Jackria Masjid, Telephone No. 22532. R82

OTACAMUND-TO LET-VICEROY'S VISIT-"ROSSMOYNE" large, commodious Bungalow, fully furnished and fitted with electric light, suitable for princes or large families. Drawing room, Ante-room, Dining room, Pantry Office, Glazed verandah, four bed rooms, five bath rooms, kitchen Horse-stalls; Coach-house, Garage, Poultry house, Dog Kennels, and Tennis Court. Apply to the undersigned: Messrs. DASTUR & CO., Solicitors, Ismail Bldg., Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. C 28334

PROFESSION.

READERS!-Hurry up your mail. Ask us for full particulars of the following magazines published by Experimenter Publishing Co. of America. Science and Invention, Amazing Stories or the Scientific Fiction, Money making, Radio News, Radio Review, Popular magic, Novelties and how to make them, how to make it. Sample Copy of each Magazine costs Re. one only. Wanted Agents. Address to:-Dept. JAL, RAMSANKAR & CO., Tanpapor, Travandrum. P R154

MEDICAL.

SIDDHA GULIKA-A Sovereign remedy for Malaria and all periodical fevers. Roots out the malarial and restores the body to perfect health. Price Rs. 1 1/2 for 6 pills sufficient for a complete cure. Apply to V. M. SADANANDAN, Aryavaidyan, Mankave, Chalapuram, MALA-BAR. N 28311

CHANDRAPRABHA PILLS-An unfailing specific for Impotence, general debility and all diseases having its seat in the generative organs, Chronic gonorrhoea, bladder complaints, stricture, etc. Guaranteed harmless. No diet restrictions. Price Rs. 3.8 per tin of 30 Pills. Apply to V. M. SADANANDAN, Aryavaidyan, Mankave, Chalapuram, MALA-BAR. N 28310

CATARACTS-No matter ripe or unripe. No risk of operation. Cure Guaranteed. Particulars on request. "SRI" WORKS, Beadon Square, Calcutta. P 28194A

MACHINERY, TOOLS ETC.

FOR SALE-60 B. H. P. TANGYE CRUDE OIL ENGINE complete in working order. Apply ERUCH D. ENGL-NEER & CO., Apollo Street, Fort Bombay. K R151

PUBLIC NOTICES.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS, Legal and Public Notifications are published in these columns at the following rates:-

Per Column
Inch per Insertion.
1st Insertion Rs. 7-8-0
2nd Insertion Rs. 5-8-0
3rd Insertion Rs. 4-8-0
4th and Subsequent
Insertion Rs. 3-8-0

Mofussil advertisers are requested to send remittance in advance and state clearly, whether they wish to insert their advertisements in these columns or in the classified short advertisement columns.

THE BOMBAY FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

REVISION OF TARIFF RULES AND REGULATIONS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC that the Bombay Fire Insurance Association have decided to effect wide revisions in their Tariff Rules and Regulations all of which definitely will come into operation on the 31st March, 1927. Under the new Tariffs all rates are strictly net, "subject to no rebate or discount whatsoever" other than allowances for approved Fire Extinguishing Appliances.

Members of the Association are authorised to grant temporary cover for a period in no case exceeding 30 days but no policy or renewal receipt will be issued without pre-payment of the full premium.

A. F. FERGUSON & CO.,
Secretaries.

28247

PUBLIC NOTICES.

WANTED

A LADY SUPERINTENDENT for Municipal Girls' Schools at Meerut. Must be educational enthusiast, trained and experienced. Must have good organising capacity. Must be well versed with Urdu and Hindi both, preference will be given to English knowing and non-pariah observing lady. Salary Rs. 70/- to Rs. 100/- including conveyance allowance, provident fund benefits extra. Apply stating age qualifications, previous experience with copies of testimonials (not to be returned) to the Chairman, Municipal Board, Meerut. 28361

NOTICE.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED for the post of a "LECTURER" at the Jamshedpur Technical Institute on the pay of Rs. 200-300 depending on qualifications.

Applicants must be technical graduates with Metallurgical training or experience. Preference will be given to men who have had teaching experience. Forms of application can be obtained now from the

DIRECTOR,
TECHNICAL INSTITUTE,
Jamshedpur, B. N. Ry.

28358

NOTICE.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED for the post of "DEMONSTRATOR" at the Jamshedpur Technical Institute on the pay of Rs. 150/- a month.

Applicants should possess either the degree of M. Sc. in Chemistry or B. Sc. with honours in Chemistry. Preference will be given to men who have had some experience in a recognised Laboratory after obtaining their degree.

Application forms may be obtained now from the

DIRECTOR OF THE TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE
Jamshedpur, B. N. Ry.

28357

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA

THE BANK will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 4th proximo that day being a Public Holiday (RAMZAN-ID), under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

J. G. RIDLAND,
Secretary & Treasurer.
Bombay, 24th March, 1927. 28340

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

EASTER HOLIDAYS CHEAP RETURN TICKETS.

DURING the ensuing Easter Holidays, Concession Tickets for first and second classes at one and one third fare and for later class at a fare and a half for the double journey will be issued to passengers over the G. I. P. Railway travelling distances over 100 miles. This concession will be in force from the 8th to 18th April, 1927, and will be available for completion of the return journey up to midnight of 28th April 1927.

No refunds can be claimed on tickets purchased but unused or lost. Detailed information can be had at the Information Bureau, G. I. P. Railway, Victoria Terminus, Bombay or at the Booking Offices.

A. PEEL COOLDNEY,
Ag. Chief Traffic Manager.
Victoria Terminus,
29th March, 1927. 28363

NOTICE.

SUKKUR MUNICIPALITY wants to dispose of the following plants due to change of system in Power House:-

1. VICKERS PETTUS ENGINE of 100 B.H.P. (2 cylinders) second hand, working since three years, in good condition, complete with large pulley for Belt Driving. The engine can be seen working.

2. D. C. DYNAMOS COMPOUND WOUND, 230 volts, one of 75 K.W. and the other of 50 K.W., make British Thompson Houston complete with pulley of 5 feet diameter for Belt driven, Revolutions per minute 610 and 720 respectively. The Dynamos can be seen working and are in good condition.

3. D. C. DYNAMO COMPOUND WOUND of 32 K.W. 230 volts, Revolutions per minute 300, make Metropolitan Vickers, suitable for direct coupling.

2. These plants can be seen in the Power House opposite Tajur garden.

3. Any one, who wants to purchase above plants, should send his offer to the CHIEF

ENGINEER and ELECTRICAL SUPERVISOR,

28360

PUBLIC NOTICES.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all Licensed Plumbers and persons desirous of obtaining a Municipal Plumbing License that a course of Practical Plumbing will be started at the V. J. T. Institute from 8-30 a.m. on Saturday, the 2nd April, 1927.

For further particulars apply to the Principal and Secretary of the Institute.

W. A. NJVEN,
A.M.I.C.E., M.I.E.,
Hydraulic Engineer.

Municipal Office,
Dated 29th March, 1927. 28364

NOTICE

THE CENTRAL INDIA SPINNING WEAVING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that AD-INTERIM DIVIDENDS for the half-year ended 31st December, 1926, at the rate of Rs. 12.8 per Preference Share and at the rate of Rs. 15 per Ordinary Share, both free of Income Tax, will be paid on and after MONDAY, the 2nd May, 1927, between the hours of 11.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. (Standard Time) on SATURDAYS and 11.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. on other week days, at the Registered Office of the Company, "Bombay House," Bruce Street, Fort, to those shareholders whose names be on the register on Tuesday, the 5th April, 1927.

Dividend Warrants will be posted to the Shareholders on the 30th April, 1927.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be closed from TUESDAY, the 5th April to SATURDAY, the 9th April, 1927, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors,
TATA SONS, LIMITED,
Agents.

Bombay, 29th March, 1927. 28365

TENDERS.

MUNICIPALITY OF BOMBAY.

NOTICE

TENDERS for supplying and erecting a Refrigerator Plant with all accessories, etc., for Cold Storage at Chowpatti Market will be received not later than 1 p.m. (E.T.) on TUESDAY, the 31st day of May, 1927.

Tenders shall be addressed to the Municipal Commissioner and delivered at the office of the Chief Accountant, Municipal Office, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.

All tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope which must be endorsed with the description of the tender.

Forms of contract, specification, etc., will be issued to anyone deputed to receive them on payment of a deposit of Rs. 5 by the undersigned who will, on application, give any further information that may be required.

JAMES W. MACKISON,
Special Engineer,
Development Works.

Municipal Office,
Bombay, 28th March, 1927. 28359

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE COURT OF JOINT SUB-JUDGE AT LARKHANA.

CIVIL SUIT NO. 1865 of 1925.

PARUMAL, son of Bhojraj, resident of Larkana. Plaintiff

against

(1) MANIK CHUNIMAL, son of Dayabhai, (2) DAYABHAI, son of Mulehand. The above defendants dwelling at Ahmedabad. Defendants.

WHEREAS the plaintiff has instituted a suit against you for Rs. 1,531-7-6 you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court, in person or by a Pleader on the 11th day of April, 1927, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to answer the claim.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 23rd day of March, 1927.

UDHARAM
Clerk of the Court.

28362

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Suit No. 3965 of 1924.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, LTD., Plaintiff.

Versus.

S. NARAYEN AND CO. Defendants.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute for Sale made in the above Suit and bearing date the 16th day of July, 1925, the following immovable property will be sold by Public Auction by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House on THURSDAY, the 31st day of March, 1927, at the hour of 4.45 o'clock in the afternoon. (Standard Time).

PARTICULARS.

All that piece or parcel of Government land or ground situate, lying and being at Andheri Taluka, Bhandra, District Thane, in the Registration Sub-District of Bhandra District Thane, containing by admeasurement 2465 square yards or thereabouts and registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under entry No. 103, Survey No. 30, New Pot No. 11, Old Pot No. 17, Akar 52-0 area 12-19 Gunthas or thereabouts, Entry No. 103, Survey No. 30, Falmi No. 7, Akar Nil, area 1/2 Gunthas or thereabouts and entry No. 114, Survey No. 32, New Pot No. 1, Old Pot No. 9, Akar Rs. 1-8-0, area of Gunthas one anna or thereabouts and bounded as follows that is to say, on or towards the West by a land bearing, non-agricultural number and Survey No. 30 Pot No. 15, on or towards the East by the boundary of the village of Gundavil and on or towards the South by the land bearing survey No. 32, Pot No. 2 and on the North partly by land bearing Survey No. 30, Pot No. 16, and partly by boundary of Gundavil Village and which said premises were formerly in the occupation of Waman Wasudeo Moornarjan.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs. ARDESIR HORMUSJI DINSHAW AND CO., Attorneys for the Plaintiffs above named at No. 115, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.

Dated this 8th day of February, 1927.

H. H. WADIA,

Commissioner.

28230

AUCTION SALES.

MEHTA & CO.

(On Government G.I.P. Ry. List.)

119, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.

AUCTION SALE OF A VERY VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY AT CHINCH BUNDER ROAD, KHUDAK, OPPOSITE THE KHOJA JAMALKHAN.

ON SATURDAY, the 2nd April at 4 p.m. (S.T.) Messrs. MEHTA AND CO., Auctioneers will sell by Public Auction under instruction from Messrs. Madhavji and Co., Attorneys for Thacker Kanji Jadavji and another and on account and at the risk of Dattoobhoy Jetha Easa Thaver, the Mortgagee in exercise of the power of sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage dated the 12th day of January, 1921, and further charge dated 1st February, 1921 made between the Mortgagee of the one part and the Mortgagees of the other part, the undermentioned very valuable landed property on the premises:-

All that piece or parcel of land of the redeemed pension and Tax Tenure containing by admeasurement four hundred and forty-five square yards or thereabouts and registered by the Collector of Land Revenue under Collector's Old No. 27, New No. 1895, Old Survey Nos. 1328, 1329, and 1330 and Survey No. 3144 and Cadastral Survey No. 1674 of Maudvi Division together with the tenement of building standing thereon assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under B Ward No. 3131A and Street Nos. 129-139 all which premises are situate at and on the Northern Side of 1st Chinch Bunder Road in the city and registration Sub-District of Bombay and are bounded on or towards the East by the property of Karamally Boorji, on or towards the West by the Doongri Tantapur Street, on or towards the North partly by the property of Allarakhia Ladak and partly by the property of Coreji Vinaisagar and on or towards the South by the said 1st Chinch Bunder Road.

For further particulars and conditions of sale please apply to Messrs. Madhavji and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagee at Dalai Street, Examiner Building or to the undersigned at their Office.

MEHTA AND CO.

AUCTION SALES.

J. S. MODY & CO.

AUCTIONEERS.

20, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.
Tel. No. 23409.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY SITUATE AT BOMANJEE LANE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS NANABHAI BOMANJI LANE WITHIN THE FORT.

Under instructions from Messrs. Phiroze Masani and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagee Mr. Sorabshah Framji Captain and on account and at the risk of the Mortgagee Ayub Mahomed Ayub, pursuant to the power of sale reserved to the Mortgagee under an Indenture of Mortgage dated 7th January, 1925 Messrs. J. S. MODY AND CO., Auctioneers, will sell by Public Auction on SATURDAY, the 2nd day of April 1927 at 4.30 p.m. (S.T.) on the premises the undermentioned property:

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY.

All that piece or parcel of land of the Quit and Ground Rent Tenure (now redeemed) containing by admeasurement 42 decimal point 63 square yards or thereabouts and registered in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under Old Nos. 415418 and New Nos. 5442 and 5, Old Survey Nos. 1226 and 1225 and New Survey Nos. 9122 and 9123 and bearing Cadastral Survey No. 596 of Fort Division, together with the dwelling house and all premises standing or lying thereon assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under A Ward No. 2392 and Street No. 49 and these said premises are situate at Bomanjee Lane, otherwise known as Nanabhai Bomanji Lane, in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay and bounded, as follows, that is to say on or towards the East by the property of Ratanbhai Fazalbhai, on or towards the West by the property of Ranechodas Narani, on or towards the North by the said Bomanji Lane and on or towards the South partly by Sycoper's passage and partly by the property of Manekbhai, widow of Dhanjibhai Kikabhai.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Phiroze Masani and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagee at their Office at 375 Hornby Road, Fort or to the undersigned.

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY SITUATE AT PARBHADDEVJI ROAD, STREET.

Under instructions from Messrs. Vachha and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagees Messrs. Jesaji Dewji and Co., and on account and at the risk of the estate of the Mortgagee Bhagwanji Mulji and his heirs pursuant to the power of sale reserved to the mortgagee dated 19th May, 1925, made between Bhagwanji Mulji of the one part and Keshrimlal Rajmal and others doing business under the name style and firm of Jesaji Dewaji and Co., of the other part Messrs. J. S. MODY AND CO., Auctioneers will sell by Public Auction on the premises THIS DAY Wednesday the 30th day of March 1927, at 5 p.m. (S.T.), the undermentioned property:

SCHEDULE.

All that piece or parcel of land of Pension and Tax Tenure containing by admeasurement 2302 square yards or thereabouts and registered by the Collector of Land Revenue under Old Nos. 130 and 710, New Nos. 3707 and 4693, Old Survey Nos. 614 and New Survey No. 17463 and C. S. No. 25 of Mahan Division together with the messuage tenement, or dwelling house standing thereon, assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under G. Ward Nos. 2989-90 and Street Nos. 54 and 55 and all which premises are situate at Parbhudewji Road Street at Bombay, in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay and are bounded on or towards the East by the property of Doming Pascual Luis, on or towards the West by the property of Mr. Mantri, on or towards the North by the property of Kashinath Dewji Dhuru and on or towards the South by the property of N. S. Salvicio Church.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Messrs. Vachha and Co., Attorneys for the Mortgagees at their office in Yusuf Building, Church Gate Street, Fort, or to the undersigned.

J. S. MODY & Co.

Auctioneers.

BENNETT & CO.

120, APOLLO STREET, FORT

AUCTION SALE OF ANGLO-AMERICAN PRESSES TO PRESS OIL AND MANOMETERS.

Under instructions from Messrs. Bakubhai Ambalal and Co., and on account and at the risk of the New Oil Mills Co. Ltd. (now in liquidation) Messrs. BENNETT & Co. will THIS DAY WEDNESDAY, the 20th instant sell by Public Auction at 5.30 p.m. (S.T.) at No. 35, New Marine Lines, "Maldon House"-

3 Anglo-American Presses, and 3 Manometers manufactured by Harburger Eisenund Bronzewerke.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Madhavji and Co., Attorneys for Messrs. Bakubhai Ambalal and Co., at their address at 33, Medows Street, Fort, or to the undersigned.

BENNETT & CO.

NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL
COTTON MARKETS.

NEW YORK COTTON.	
May	14.09-.01
July	14.31-.01
October	14.51+.01
December	14.68+.02
January	14.70+.01
Middling Spot	14.40-

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.	
May	14.13-
July	14.31+.02
Middling Spot	14.12-

NEW YORK, 10.55 a.m.	
May	14.11
July	14.32
October	14.52

NEW YORK, NOON CALL.	
May	14.08
July	14.30
October	14.49

NEW ORLEANS, 9.55 a.m.	
May	14.16
July	14.31

SALES, Mar. 28.	
Sales at Liverpool	6,000 Bales
Sales on Speculation	400
Sales of East Indian Cotton	Nil

RECEIPTS AND EXPORTS OF U.S.A.	
New York, March 28.	
Day's Receipts at all U.S. Ports	39,000 Bales
Day's Exports to Great Britain	4,000
Day's Exports to the Continent	66,000 Bales

LIVERPOOL COTTON.	
March	7.41-.01
April	7.42-.02
May	7.51-.01
June	7.56-.01
July	7.65-.01
August	7.68-
September	7.71-
October	7.75+.01
November	7.77+.01
December	7.80+.01
January	7.83+.01
February	7.85+.01
March	7.89+.02
Middling Spot	7.76-

INDIAN COTTON.	
Scinde, Good	5.85-
Scinde, Fully Good	6.05-
Scinde, Fine	6.25-
Bengal Good	5.95-
Bengal Fully Good	6.15-
Bengal D. Fine	6.35-
Omra, Good	6.35-
Omra, Fully Good	6.60-
Omra, Fine	6.85-
Broach, Good	6.35-
Broach Fully Good	6.65-
Broach Fine	6.95-

EGYPTIAN COTTON.	
March	12.88-.02
April	12.90-.04
May	12.92-.03
June	12.98-.01
July	13.08+.02
August	13.10+.02
September	13.19+.02
October	13.21+.02
November	13.35+.07
December	13.40+.07
January	13.36+.08
February	13.36+.08
March	13.36+.08
Sakellaris, F.G.F., SPOT	13.20-.05

WHEAT—LONDON MARKET.	
London, March 28.	
Buxton Russo, per 63 lb.	49/6
March/April shipment sellers	49/6
Bozario Santa Fe, per 63 lb.	50/6
March/April shipment sellers	50/6
Wheat, Australian:	
April shipment buyers	52/6
Wheat, Choice White Karachi:	
April/May shipment quoted	52

LONDON PRODUCE.	
London, March.	
Cottonseed, Bombay:	
March/April shipment offered	28/0
Castorseed, Bombay:	
March/April shipment offered	19/2
Rapeseed, Toria, ton:	
March/April shipment offe	220/2
April/May shipment offe	220/2

LONDON METALS.	
London, March 28.	
Copper, English Best Selected	£ 61
Copper Braziers	£ 62
Yellow Metal	£ 66
Spelter, Hard Indian Brands	£ 15/8
Corrugated Sheets, 24 gauge	£ 15/8
Tin English Ingots	£ 305-1/2

COFFEE.	
New York, March 28.	
Coffee, Fair Rio (No. 7 quality) Spot:	16-3/16

THE CAWNPORE COTTON MILLS CO.,	
CAWNPORE.	

TENNIS SCREENS	
Size 60"x9"—Made of specially selected dark blue Kakomi Materials strengthened by cross bands of newar. Fitted with "S" shaped hooks and eyelets. Rs. 136/- per pair. Delivery charges extra. Poles not supplied.	

THE CAWNPORE COTTON MILLS CO.,	
CAWNPORE.	

MONEY MARKET.

EXCHANGE QUOTATION

Bombay, Mar. 29.

B. C. RATE—	
Bank's selling T T 1/5 29/32.	
Bank's selling D D 1/5 15/16.	
LONDON—	
Bank's selling T T 1/5 29/32.	
Bank's selling D D 1/5 15/16.	
Bank's buying 3 M st D A 1/6 7/32.	
Bank's buying D D 1/5 31/32.	
Bank's buying T T 1/6.	

PARIS—	
Bank's selling D D Fres. 892.	
Bank's buying 3 M st D A Fres. 963.	
Bank's buying D D Fres. 947.	

JAPAN—	
Bank's selling T T Rs. 135 3/4.	
Bank's buying D D Rs. 131 3/4.	

HONGKONG—	
Bank's selling D D Rs. 135 3/4.	

SHANGHAI—	
Bank's selling D D Rs. 168 3/4.	
Bank's buying D D Rs. 156 1/4.	

NEW YORK—	
Bank's selling D D Rs. 275 1/2.	

CROSS RATE—	
London—New York Do. 4.85 3/4.	
London—Paris Fres. 124.03.	
London—Switzerland Fres. 25.24.	
London—Brussels Fres. 34.94.	
London—Rome Liras 105.75.	
London—Berlin Marks 20.46.	

Tone of Exchange—Quiet Market.	
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LONDON DISCOUNTS.	
Bombay, Mar. 29.	
3 months 4 11/32 per cent.	
6 months 4 11/32 per cent.	
Bank of England rate 5 per cent.	
Money Call 6 1/2 per cent.	
1 month 6 per cent.	
3 months 5 per cent.	
6 months 4 1/2 per cent.	
Imperial Bank rate 7 per cent.	

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, March 28.

Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	
419-3/4	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	
(London Register)	4110-1/2
P. & O. Banking Corporation	29-7/8
National Bank	248-1/2
Eastern Bank	261-3/8
Fundank Loan 4 per cent	285-7/8
Conversion Loan	275
Indian Loan 5-1/2 per cent	4101-1/2
Rupce Paper 3-1/2 per cent	257-1/2
Indian Stock 3 per cent Sterling	
Loan	259-1/4
Indian Stock 3-1/2 per cent Sterling	
Loan	259
Consolidated	254-1/2
War Loan 5 per cent	4101-1/2
Victory Bonds 4 per cent	491-7/4

LONDON EXCHANGES.

T T Berlin on London	20.47-7/8
T T Amsterdam on London	12.14
T T Brussels on London	34.95
T T Madrid on London	27.03
T T Milan on London	105.65
T T Berne on London	25.25
T T Paris on London	124.03

LONDON SILVER.

London, March 28.	
Silver—Market Quiet.	
Spot	25-3/4
Forward	25-9/16

LONDON GOLD.

London, March 28.	
Bar Gold, Fine, per oz.	44-4/4

LONDON DISCOUNT RATE.

London, March 28.	
Interest 7 Days' Market Loans	4 1/2
Interest 7 Days' Market Loans	4 1/2
Bank Bills, 3 months 4-11/32 per cent.	
Bank Bills, 6 months 4-11/32 per cent.	
Fine Trade Bills, 3 months per cent.	
Fine Trade Bills, 6 months per cent.	

LINSEED.

London, March 28.	
Linseed, Calcutta:	
March/April short sellers	217/8
April/May short sellers	217/8
Linseed, Lard, c.i.f. ton:	
April/May short Hull paid	214/10
March/April short offered	218/7/6

LINSEED OIL.

London, March 28.	
Lard Oil, naked, London, cwt:	
delivery sellers	30/3
Aug. delivery sellers	30/4 1/2

LONDON METALS.

London, March 28.	
Copper, English Best Selected	£ 61
Copper Braziers	£ 62
Yellow Metal	£ 66
Spelter, Hard Indian Brands	£ 15/8
Corrugated Sheets, 24 gauge	£ 15/8
Tin English Ingots	£ 305-1/2

COFFEE.

New York, March 28.	
Coffee, Fair Rio (No. 7 quality) Spot:	16-3/16

PRODUCER RECEIPTS.

Bombay, Mar. 29.	
Receipts of various raw produce into	
Bombay upto noon the 28th inst.	

Wheat	3,944 cwt.
Linseed	11,311 "
Rape, Rai & Mustards	688 "
Gingellyseeds	674 "
Poppyseed	34 "
Groundnuts	1,277 "
Castorseed	5,060 "
Rice	3,892 "
Myrabollams	943 "
Cottonseed	287 "
Gram	1,689 "
Joovar	75 "
Barley	22 "
Bajree	1,415 "
Coal	1,420 tons.

BOMBAY COTTON MARKET.

AMERICANS: N. Y. Narrow and Fearless—Range 6 Points. Poor Trading—Futures closed 1 lower to 2 Higher. Spot Unchanged.

LOCAL: Commission Houses and Operators Selling. Absorbed by Option Dealers. Closed Quiet.

PRIVATE CABLES: Messrs. Patel Bros. have received the following cable to-day: New York May highest 14.13 (10.41 a.m.) lowest 14.07 (11.50 a.m.)

Messrs. Dreunon and Co. have received the following cable dated 28th inst. (4.55 p.m.) from their Liverpool friends Messrs. J. H. Springman and Co: "Market quiet. Manipulators quiet. Dredstone is better. No new feature. Think present tendency of market is towards higher price levels."

Yesterday the New York figures market ruled dull with a poor trading. Prices fluctuated within a narrow compass and the close was quiet but steady near months unchanged to 1 point lower, while distant months ruled steady 1 to 2 points higher. Spot cotton prices closed unchanged.

The Liverpool cotton market opened 1 point lower and closed 1 point lower for near positions and distant ones closed to 1 to 2 points better. Sales of ready cotton were 6,000 bales.

There is no change in the general situation and we are passing through dull markets with a poor trading. However we believe every day that we pass through brings us nearer to active markets with violent fluctuations mainly influenced by changes in prospects. In this connection below are the "Guardian" dated New York March 28.

"Heavy rains in parts of Texas and Central Valley are delaying the export of the land in these areas. Texas, but little rain in Oklahoma reported, however, and better progress is reported, while the advancement of water in Alabama and the South everywhere are excellent. Some of the best of good-stands in the South-West of Texas. A reliable source finds no decrease of acreage in Texas.

The comparison of winter temperatures, especially in the Southern half of the States, is not very favorable to the cotton crop.

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SHARES FIRM.

Bombay, Mar. 29.

Mostly confined to transfers for mill shares fluctuated in a narrow range with a steady upward movement in good demand which resulted in a new high level of Rs. 216 1/4 for shares though continues in good prices fluctuated between 64/8 and 65/4. Cement shares particularly Tata Iron and Steel. There is a good demand for Petroleum shares as well as Scindia shares which also followed firm. Tata Iron second preference shares are also steady around Rs. 216 1/4.

At present, firm tone prevails on the Stock Exchange but the expectations of weaker markets at transfer times has not materialised. This goes to prove that the short feeling nervous came out to cover their short interest which resulted in further improvement in prices of active shares. Naturally this action on the part of the bears has left the market technically in a weaker state and while we believe in higher prices eventually we would recover securing profits at least on the portions of the holdings in strong markets with a view to replace in easier moments. Thus it seems advisable to secure profits on Tata Iron Deferrals around, say Rs. 216 1/4 as we believe a natural healthy reaction is due and unless this comes in we are afraid the whole constructive bull movement will result in a rapid collapse on account of over bought conditions of certain shares and we strongly recommend not to increase holdings at this enhanced level.

Following are to-day's closing quotations:—

LOCAL BANKS. Paid up Last Quotation

Bank of India	Rs.	Divid.	Rs.	as
Baroda	50	1-2	76	4
Central Co-operative	50	1-2	68	8
Central	25	1-4	29	4
Eastern	25	9 p.c.	82	
Imperial	500	40	1490	

Imperial Com-tributory

Union	125	10	372	8
Union	5	0	3	14

Bundi

Central India	10	4-8Y	29	4
Mining	10	4-8Y	29	4
Indian Cement O.	350		178	12
Katni Cement O.	100		167	8
Katni Cement D.	40		550	
Punjab Cement O.	10		7	6
Shivrajpur	10	8Y.	53	

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

Ahmedabad Pratej	500	11 p.c.	870	
Amritsar Patis	100	10 p.c.	150	
Central Province	700	70 p.c.	101	
Dhond Baramati	100	6 p.c.	102	
Hoshirpur Doab	100	5 p.c.	50	
Hoshirpur Doab	100	5 p.c.	100	
Larkhans	100	5 p.c.	84	
Mandira Bhon	90	5 p.c.	82	
Pachora Jamnisi	100	5 p.c.	95	
Sara Sirajpur	100	5 p.c.	100	
Sialkot Narowal	100	5 p.c.	111	
Sind Light	100	12 p.c.	152	
Tapti Valley	500	8 p.c.	715	
Upper Sind Light	100	4 p.c.	78	

STEAMER COMPANIES.

£5.	9 p.c.	
500	40	14
125	10	3

BOMBAY CITY AND SUBURBS

ENGAGEMENTS.

TO-DAY.

Public lecture by Mr. Abdul Karim on "Universality of Islam" at the Bombay Students' Brotherhood, French Bridge, Chowpatty, 6.30 p.m. (S. T.).
Royal Agricultural Commission, Town Hall, 10 a.m.

Municipal Standing Committee, 4.10 p.m.
THURSDAY, March 31.
Royal Agricultural Commission, Town Hall, 8.30 a.m.

Municipal Corporation, 3.40 p.m.
Y. M. C. A. Annual Meeting, Wodehouse Road, 6.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, April 1.
The s.s. "Malaja" with the English mails of March 17 due at 10 a.m.
Royal Agricultural Commission, Town Hall, 10 a.m.

Aga Khan Hockey Semi-final, 8.30 p.m.
Bombay Gymkhana Ground.

SATURDAY, April 2.
The s.s. "Narkanda" with the English mails at 1 p.m.

Aga Khan Hockey Semi-final, 8.30 p.m.
Bombay Gymkhana Ground.

NOTICE TO JURYMEN.

Gentlemen of the Common Jury summoned for the current Criminal Sessions are required to attend at the High Court on Wednesday morning, the 30th instant at 11 o'clock (S. T.).

LECTURE ON "VEDIC RELIGION."

Pandit Dwijendra Sharma will deliver a public lecture on "Vedic Religion" to-day (Wednesday) at 8.30 p.m. in the Hall of Arya Samaj at Bazar Gate Street, Fort.

GITA CLASS.

Swami Viswananda of the Sri Ramakrishna Mission Khar will conduct a public class in English on the Bhagavat Gita at Saraswat Society Hall, Gandevi, Alexandra Road, at 7.30 a.m. to-day (Wednesday).

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY ASSOCIATION.
The annual general meeting of the Bombay Presidency Association will be held in the Rooms of the Association to-day (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. (S. T.).

Y. M. C. A. VOLLEY BALL LEAGUE.
His Excellency the Governor will be present at the Mastan Shah Bang Playground at 5 p.m. to-morrow (Thursday), to watch the final game of the Mastan Shah Bang Volley Ball League.

B. P. C. C. COUNCIL MEETING.

A Joint Meeting of the Council and Propaganda Sub-Committee of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee will be held to-morrow (Thursday) at 7.30 p.m. (S. T.) at the Congress House.

RADIO BROADCASTING.

A programme of Gramophone Records will be broadcast by the Bombay Presidency Radio Club on Wednesday the 30th instant from 5 to 6 p.m. and from 6.30 to 7.45 p.m. Call Sign 2 FV Wavelength 437 Metres.

PRARTHANA SAMAJ.

In connection with the Diamond Jubilee of the Samaj, Prof. Herembehnd Maltra, M.A., will give a lecture in English to-day (Wednesday) at 6.30 p.m.

"UNIVERSITY OF ISLAM."

Under the joint auspices of the Muslim Students' Union and the Bombay Students' Brotherhood, Mr. Abdul Karim will deliver a public lecture on "Universality of Islam" at the Brotherhood premises, French Bridge, Chowpatty, to-day (Wednesday) at 8.30 p.m. (S. T.).

BOMBAY BRANCH ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the above Society will be held in the Society's Rooms to-day (Wednesday) at 6 p.m., when a lecture on "Indian Sculpture" will be delivered by Mr. K. N. Sitaram.

HAPPY HOME FOR BLIND.

The receipt of the following donations towards the above Home, during February is acknowledged:

Jehangir Hormasji Cama; Manilal Gopaladas and Mrs. Mitha Guevreck; each at Rs. 50; Rs. 150; A friend; Doek; and Doek; each at Rs. 25; Rs. 75; B. M. S. Rs. 15; Hariprasad Ambalal Narsilal, Rs. 11; Vishnu Anant, Rs. 10; A friend and Miss Pillan Edulji Mhashiff each at Rs. 3; Rs. 10; Bai Avnanbi Ratanji in loving memory of dear mother, Re. 1; Total amount Rs. 272.

FIFTH SESSION OF PAREL CONFERENCE.

At a meeting of the working Committee of the Parel Conference held on 27th instant it was decided that the Fifth session of the said Conference be held on Sunday (the 24th prox.). The fee for membership of the Reception Committee is Rs. 2 and the delegate's fee is Re. 1.

Suggestions regarding the subjects for resolutions are invited and should be addressed to Mr. G. N. Sahasrabudhe, General Secretary, Parel Conference, Damodar Hall, Parel, Bombay 13.

A CHARITY PERFORMANCE.

The Bharat Young Amateurs Dramatic Club of Dadar gave a performance at Basant on Sunday night, of a Marathi play "Shanshaga Kallol" in aid of the Agricultural Exhibition to be held at Ahmedabad. Mr. R. N. Samant, President of the Municipality explained the object of the performance and thanked the Collector of Thana, Mr. M. K. Shaikh and the audience for their solid support of the cause of Agricultural Exhibition, and all those who had worked to make the performance a success. The Bharat Club deserves congratulations for their generous offer of service without charging almost any cost.

NATIONAL PHYSICAL CULTURE INSTITUTE.



"Chronicle" Photo.
The Third Anniversary celebration of the National Physical Culture Institute on Sunday, Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola presiding.

CHARGE OF ILL-TREATMENT FAILS

FATHER-IN-LAW'S COMPLAINT DISMISSED

The complaint against Gordhandas Mangkai a courtier residing at Garwadi, by Lashkar Shanjhi his father-in-law for ill-treating Kantabai the girl wife of the accused, was dismissed by Mr. H. P. H. Dastur the acting Chief Presidency Magistrate at the Esplanade Police Court on Tuesday on the evidence of Kantabai herself who told the Magistrate that she had never been ill-treated by her husband and that she lived happily with her husband she wanted to go back to him.

It may be recalled that the complaint was filed in June 1926 and as Kantabai was then unwilling to live with her husband, she was sent to Seva Sadan where she lived for some time.

When the case came up for hearing on Tuesday, Kantabai denied the alleged ill-treatment meted out to her and said that she was willing to go and live with her husband. The Magistrate therefore dismissed the complaint.

The accused Gordhandas agreed never to ill-treat Kantabai in future.

SCOURGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

YOUTH COMMITS SUICIDE

A concrete case of the havoc unemployment works amidst us was brought to light on Monday when a Hindu youth named Waman Narhar Kulkarni, aged 20, committed suicide as he failed to secure a job in Bombay. He had come to Bombay about two months ago, in search of employment and resided with his brother at New Nagpada. In spite of his efforts, during the past two months, he was unable to find employment.

A driver of the G. I. P. Railway, who noticed the body, informed the police. In the pocket of the dead youth, a piece of paper, which was originally an application for a job in the postal department, was found. On the reverse of this application, which was dated March 28, Waman had written a few lines to the Commissioner of Police signifying his intention of committing suicide. He had requested that official not to trouble his relations after his death.

At an inquest held by the Coroner on Tuesday the jury recorded a verdict of suicide.

FATAL JUMP FROM THIRD FLOOR

In a state of mental distress, Ratansi Kalia (52), residing in Bhedy Bazar, Bombay, committed suicide by throwing himself down from the third floor of a building. He was removed to the J. J. Hospital, where he died yesterday due to concussion of the brain. At an inquest held on Tuesday, the Coroner's jury recorded a verdict of suicide.

KNOCKED DOWN BY CAR

At the adjourned inquest on Biju Gulal, (55), who died as a result of having been knocked down by a motor on Queen's Road, Bombay, on March 23, the Coroner's jury recorded a verdict of accidental death while rashly crossing the road.

COLONIAL CONFERENCE AND MANDATED TERRITORIES.

LONDON, Mar. 28.
In the House of Commons, replying to questions Mr. Amery stated that only those Mandated Territories which were under the jurisdiction of the Colonial Office would be represented at the forthcoming Colonial Conference at which most of the colonies would be represented.—Reuter's Special.

SHRADHANAND MEMORIAL FUND

DELHI, March 22.
The adjourned meeting of the Shradhanand Trust was held last evening at the Bala Mills. Pandit Malaviya presided. Grants of Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 5,000 were made out of the Memorial Fund to carry on the work of the uplift of the depressed classes and the Sanyasani Movement, respectively. The former sum has been granted to the Dnyaneshwar Sanstha. Free Press.

MUSLIM TERMS.

WANTED LIGHT.

To the Editor of "The Chronicle".
All India has rejoiced to learn, that after all, our Muslim brothers have recognised the beneficial effects of separate electorates, and have accepted the wholesome principle of Joint Electorates.

But their stipulation regarding the separation of Sind from the Bombay Presidency is inexplicable to some and causes misapprehensions to many. And it is therefore an urgent and sacred duty of our Muslim friends to tell us why they make the separation of Sind a condition precedent for the acceptance of Joint Electorates?

Further, it is plainly asked, of what immediate value these terms are, when in the words of Mr. Jinnah the "Country is sold" by most of his followers over the Ratio question, and the greatest possible damage is done to the country already? Further, elections are still far away; and there is no urgency to rush this issue. Will Muslim friends meet these viewpoints of their Hindu critics freely and openly?—Yours, etc.

B. F. BHARUCHA.

TRIBUTE TO AG. SECRETARY OF IMPROVEMENT TRUST

At a meeting of the Bombay Improvement Trust on Wednesday after the routine work of the day was transacted, Sir V. A. Dabholkar, Chairman of the Improvements Committee, took an occasion to eulogise the services of Mr. N. T. Chawathe, the Acting Secretary, at being the last meeting of the official year. Sir Vasantrao said Mr. Chawathe was of great assistance to the Committee and especially to the Chairman without which the work would not have been transacted so smoothly.

Dr. A. G. Viegas joined the Chairman in the appreciation, and remarked that Mr. Chawathe had rendered best and excellent service which they had great pleasure to put on record.

BHANDUP RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

At a meeting of the residents of Bhandup and adjoining places held on Sunday last at Bhandup under the presidency of Mr. V. G. Meisler, a Bhandup Residents' Association was formed, and the draft constitution adopted. A Provisional Committee was also formed.

"SAK'S" FAREWELL FUNCTIONS

PURSE AND ADDRESS TO THE COMRADE

Parsi Friends and Admirers, Colleagues and Comrades of Shapurji Saklatvala M.P., are presenting him an Address and a Purse at the Excelsior Theatre on Sunday 3rd April at 10 a.m. (S. T.). Tickets at the Theatre from 3 to 6 p.m. daily.

HEARTY SEND OFF AND PURSE

At the C. J. Hall on Friday, the 8th April at 6 p.m. (S. T.), there will be a public meeting to give a hearty send off and a Purse to Shapurji Saklatvala, when Mrs. Naidu will preside. Tickets from 3 to 6 p.m. daily.

RIOT IN LARKHANA

HEAVY HINDU CASUALTIES.

HYDERABAD (Sind), Mar. 29.
A serious riot is reported from Larkhana. The town has been sacked by Mahomedans and several Hindus have been injured, some very severely. The cause of the riot is said to be reconversion to Hinduism of a Hindu convert to Islam. Owing to the exhortations of the District Magistrate and other local officials, the situation is reported to be improving. Rioters are said to be giving threats of further attacks. The total of Hindu casualties so far reported are forty and Mahomedans none. The Municipal Councillor Khudadad Surhio and thirty-two more Mahomedans have been arrested. A hospital is observed in town.—Free Press.

FAMILY PROPERTY IN MORTGAGE.

HINDU WOMAN'S CLAIM FOR MAINTENANCE.

HIGH COURT'S DECISION.

An interesting case involving the question of validity of a mortgage of the property belonging to a joint Hindu family was disposed of by Mr. Justice Dastur at the High Court.

In this suit the plaintiff, a Hindu, shotamdas, a wealthy merchant carrying on business at Bombay and Singapore, asked for a declaration that none of the three defendants, have any right or interest in the Walseshwar property plot No. 11, of which he is the owner, and for an ejectment order against the defendants, as also for compensation for wrongfully withholding possession.

The first defendant, Bai Moonia stated that she was the widow of one Surajmull Thakoredas, who died in 1893, and thereafter she adopted as her son one Ramcoover, the younger brother of her husband. She contended that the property was ancestral property belonging to the joint family consisting of Ramcoover, and his minor son Madhavji (the third defendant in this suit).

JUDGMENT.

In the course of a lengthy judgment, his Lordship observed that the plaintiff, a wealthy and respectable merchant had been the victim of a gang of disreputable persons who had so far succeeded in putting him out of possession of the property. The gang consisted of Ramcoover (the adopted son of first defendant Bai Moonia, and the husband of second defendant), his brother Nandlal, and Nandlal's son Indralal.

A DANGER TO SOCIETY.

"I never had the experience," said his Lordship, "of coming across two more abused specimens of humanity to compare with these two men. They appear to be men past redemption and by instinct consummate liars. I cannot help feeling that they are a menace and danger to society, and if let loose on the public they may victimise more honest men of the type of the plaintiff."

As regards the claim of the second defendant, her husband Ramcoover is alive and her maintenance is a matter of personal obligation on him. She is not entitled to separate residence or maintenance unless she proves that the husband has brought a concubine into the house or treats her with such cruelty as to endanger her personal safety.

A WIDOW'S RIGHTS.

Dealing with the case of the first defendant Bai Moonia, his Lordship said that under Hindu Law, if a widow takes a chance to stand or fall with the fortunes of the family, she cannot come at a later stage and claim to follow the property which has disappeared or which has been given up to outsiders in payment of just debts.

RIGHT OF RESIDENCE.

Coming to the question of the first defendant's right of residence, his Lordship observed the general principle of Hindu Law is that a Hindu widow is, in the absence of any special circumstances, entitled to reside in the family dwelling house in which she lived with her husband. The property in this case was acquired after 1912, and she never lived in it with her husband. Further in view of his Lordship's finding that the property was disposed of and mortgaged for the benefit of the family in payment of a good antecedent debt, the rights of the first and second defendants for residence in the property, no longer existed (Manilal V. Bai Tara, L. R., 17, Bomb. P. 35).

Under the circumstances his Lordship passed a decree in favour of the plaintiff, directing the defendants to vacate the premises, and also to pay to the plaintiff compensation at the rate of Rs. 840 per month from October 1925 till possession is delivered. The defendants were also directed to pay the costs of the suit to the plaintiff. In this case notice of appeal has been given.

HOCKEY

AGA KHAN TOURNEY.

BOOTHIA SINGH'S ELEVEN WIN.

The replay between the Police and Boothia Singh's XI yesterday resulted in a comfortable victory for the latter by three goals. It was a hard game throughout in which hard knocks were given and taken, the Police being especially generous in this respect, and it was only in the latter stages that the visitors could substantiate their claim to play in the next round. Boothia Singh's Eleven were obviously the cleverer team in the opening half they were unfortunate not to score. Their defence was sound and Jaganath the centre-half fed his forwards well but they could not settle down to concerted teamwork and the strong Police defence was able to cope with them. After an unproductive first half the visitors increased the pace and were frequently in their opponent's half. Boothia Singh was an outstanding player on the field and, but for weak support,

LATEST COTTON QUOTATIONS.

(Through Cotton Telegraphic Information Service, 375 Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay).

MAY.

NEW YORK.

Mar. 29.
Previous Closing Rate 14.09
To-day's Opening Rate 14.17
Difference +.08
To-day's Closing Rate 14.22
Difference +.13

LIVERPOOL MARKET.

Mar. 29.
Previous Closing Rate 7.51
To-day's Opening Rate 7.53
Difference +.02
To-day's Closing Rate 7.59
Difference +.03

Branch, April, May Expectations 7.55 0 0

LONDON SILVER MARKET.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

Mar. 29.
Silver Ready 25 12 0
Silver Forward 25 9 0
Tone of market: Steady

SUGAR MARKET REPORT.

Bombay, March, 29.

Ready prices have dropped by about 2 to 4 Annas per cwt. in yesterday's closing prices-levels. Our Forward Market has also ruled weak to-day by evidencing a drop of about a pence or two per cwt. in Java & B. R. Beet Sugar Prices.

The following are the closing quotations ruling the Bazar to-day:—

Fine White Java Sugar:—
Ready, Rs. 16/2 per cwt. F. B. H.
Transshipment, Rs. 11/2 per cwt. F. B. H.
S.S. "Garbota" Sh. 16/8 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment March, Sh. 16/8 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment April, Sh. 16/11 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment July-Aug-Sept., Sh. 16/9 per cwt. F. B. H.
Shipment Oct-Nov-Dec., Sh. 16/11 per cwt. F. B. H.
Jamnagar C. I. F.—Shipment April, Sh. 17/4 per cwt. F. B. H.
B. R. Beet Sugar:—
Ready, Rs. 16/4 per cwt.—
Shipment Feb-March, Sh. 16/9 per cwt. F. B. H.
S. S. "Clan Tish", Sh. 16/3 per cwt. F. B. H.
Tone: Weak.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Bombay, Mar. 29.

3 1/2 per cent Rupee Paper Rs. 78/11;
4 per cent Conversion Loan 1931/34 Rs. 94/12.
4 per cent Loan due 1920/70 Rs. 89/4.
5 per cent War Loan due 1929/47 Rs. 101/12.
5 per cent Loan due 1937/42 Rs. 102/12.
5 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1938 Rs. 103/8.
6 per cent Loan (Tax Free) due 1945/55 Rs. 105/2.
8 1/2 per cent War Bonds (Tax Free) due 1928 Rs. 106/6.
8 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1927 Rs. 104.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1930 Rs. 105/4.
6 per cent Bonds, 1931, 106/10.
6 per cent Bonds (Tax Free) due 1932 Rs. 107/10.
6 1/2 per cent Bombay Devp. Loan (Tax Free) due 1935 Rs. 112/12.
4 per cent Port Trust due 1974 Rs. 88.
4 per cent Municipal due 1974 Rs. 87.
4 per cent Improvement Trust 1974 Rs. 87.
6 per cent Bombay Municipal due 1964 Rs. 112/10.
6 per cent Municipal due 1920-49 Rs. 103/8.
Forward rates. Delivery 15th April.
3-1/2 per cent Paper Rs. 78/12 1945/55; Rs. 108/4.
Tone of Market:—Quiet.

would have proved very effective. Several corners proved abortive till half-way through the moiety. Disney got his chance and equalised. From a penalty corner Yates stopped the ball nicely for him, and then his terrific shot, lodging the ball high up in the net, gave Solomon no chance. The Police seemed to fall away after this and some rough play resulted, two of their players being warned by the referee. U. Khan gave Disney a good pass and the re-forward scored the second goal. Soon after this Disney ran through on his own from the half way line and completed his hat-trick. A fine shot by Jan Mahomed was well stopped by Solomon who brought off several good saves. Hasharan Singh was another prominent player. In the latter stages of the game the visitors seemed intent on beating their opponents with their tricky stickwork, and they did not fail.

BOOTHIA SINGH'S XI.

POLICE

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BOOTHIA SINGH'S XI.

POLICE

AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

New Classes for the SPECIAL DIPLOMA EXAMS. IN ACCOUNTING, BANKING, COMPANY MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE recently instituted by the Indian Merchants' Chamber will commence from 18th April. No University qualifications are required for candidates wishing to take any of these courses. Candidates passing this Exam. will be entitled to use **D. Com. M.C.** after their names. All young men anxious to improve their future prospects are requested to call immediately and see or write to the Principal,

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The Bombay Chronicle.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1927.

A SCATHING EXPOSURE

Sir Clement Hindley and the Railway Board are to-day in unbridled control of the Indian tax-payers' money and are the most powerful agency which British capitalism can possess for exploiting India. This is the impression which any unbiased reader of the debates on the Railway Budget in the Assembly will obtain and his impression will be considerably strengthened after a perusal of the latest administration report issued by the Railway Board. The scathing exposure of the Board's policy contained in the speech of Pandit Motilal Nehru on the occasion of the demand for the Railway grant in the Assembly, which we publish in full elsewhere in to-day's issue, ought to convince those who thought that the separation of the Railway Budget from the General Budget would mean a greater chance for the popular representatives to obtain a real control over the Railway policy of the Government of India, how vain were their hopes, and how the separation had for its object the securing of more freedom for the "Railway Lords" to spend the Indian tax-payers' money in any manner they liked. That the Railway Board has pursued a policy of gross extravagance, a policy which a body of businessmen would not have entertained for a moment had they been running their own concern is proved to the hilt in the speeches Pandit Motilal and other Nationalist members made on the occasion of the discussion of the Railway grant. Pandit Motilal's speech, which restricted itself, however, to the elucidation of one great point, that of the long continued fooling of the Assembly by the Board with promises to help the Indian wagon industry brings out in abundant detail the motive underlying the whole administration of the Board. When the scandal of 30,000 wagons lying with the Board as a surplus came out and that

too because of the accidental mention of the facts before the "Lingdow Commission" by Sir Clement Hindley, the popular representatives in the Assembly became aware how very much they had been as a rule kept in the dark about the actual working of the Board's policy. That policy still shrouded from public gaze and every criticism of it on the part of the peoples' representatives in the Legislature was met by the supercilious rejoinder, "Are you an expert?" a method of reply to popular criticism which appeared to be in great favour with Mr. Parsons during the Assembly debates.

What is urgently required is the appointment of a committee of enquiry into the operations of the Railway Board. The public has a right to demand the early appointment of such a committee of investigation because the Board's record of extravagance and incompetence has already cost this country several crores in the shape of useless accumulation of railway stock. In March 1918 in an unctuous communication the Government of India solemnly assured the public that they had under consideration "methods of making India more independent of outside sources in the supply of railway materials", and they promised to guarantee the purchase in India "of 2,500 broad gauge and 500 metre and narrow gauge wagons annually for ten years." They went to work with such a great will, such a great enthusiasm in this matter of helping the Indian railway industry that by 30th September 1926 it was discovered that they had purchased only 6,000 wagons in India while they had ordered 55,000 wagons from England! In October 1926 the number of surplus wagons was discovered to be 30,000 but, so great was the enthusiasm of the Railway Board for helping the Indian manufacturer that in June 1926 the Board remained "blissfully ignorant" that it was likely to have a surplus and actually proposed to the Standing Finance Committee for Railways that 5,515 additional wagons should be purchased. Had this demand been sanctioned the Indian wagon industry would have of course been further helped in the manner approved of by the Board by placing orders for wagons in England! Naturally the Indian wagon manufacturers did not particularly relish this type of help from the Board and they protested. Sir Clement Hindley in his speech on the Railway Budget had a kind word to say for these poor misguided people who were building upon hopes of orders from the Board. He protested his "due sympathy for the people who have been expecting orders to build wagons," but after the Railway Board had exerted itself so patriotically all these years to support the British manufacturers and help in the reduction of unemployment in Britain, Sir Clement Hindley had a sudden rush of sympathy for the Indian tax-payer. The manufacturers of wagons in India must not be helped with orders. The Board was considering the question of economy in public expenditure. "We should be," said Sir Clement Hindley, "rightly charged with hypocrisy if we did not regard this great saving of public money with considerable satisfaction."

To Indian eyes, however, it is bound to appear to be hypocrisy of a particularly brazen-faced kind to find an official of the Railway Board talking of "saving of public money" after having had the "considerable satisfaction" of lavelling out on a programme of expenditure not only on wagons but on locomotives which benefited the British suppliers of railway material to the extent of crores. To-day, as the answers to questions in the Assembly on Monday showed, the Railway Board is gladdened with locomotives. It has to distribute the excess on the North-Western Railway to other State-owned lines. Who is responsible, the public has the indubitable right to ask, for this wasteful method of ordering more locomotives than the Indian railways need? Is it because the primary object of railway development in India is to serve to promote the interests of British manufacturers of railway material? The Government of India have no money to spare when the burden on the poor man in India of a heavy salt tax is to be reduced. But they have money in crores to waste when it is a question of dumping railway material in this country because Britain must be fed. And this waste will not cease until the personnel of the Railway Board becomes exclusively Indian, and Indian Railway policy comes under the absolute and unfettered control of the popular representatives, as is the case in all democratic countries.

BETRAYAL OF THE POOR.

The Legislative Assembly has justified itself in the eyes of the country by reversing within a few days its decision on the Salt Tax by 52 to 42 votes. For worst of it is, as Mr. Doraiswami Iyengar pointed out, that the reductions effected in other duties have only helped the rich and the only action that the Assembly took for the sake of the poor has been finally nullified. The defeat is to some extent due to the early but inexplicable and inexcusable departure from Delhi of some popular members, especially from Bombay, and the Whip of the Congress Party. Apart from this, we do not know the mysterious process by which Government machinations succeeded in undermining the conscience and the convictions of several members who have obviously turned round on this vital question. But it is no less condemning the action of individual members when the result lies with the present rotten constitution. Pandit Motilal

Nehru hit the nail on the head when he refused to be drawn into the meshes of the Government's case on the subject and boldly opposed "the motion to put on record the utter hollowness of the constitution." But even apart from the general plea of our undemocratic constitution, there is no reason why the Council of State—which is deemed to occupy a status parallel to that of the House of Lords—should have anything to do with a money bill at all and why we should not follow the earlier British example of "throwing over the table the Money Bill" as amended by the Council of State and literally kicking it out of the House? It is a shame that the Elders have once again disgraced themselves by rejecting the verdict of the popular House and by serving as instruments of Government for betraying the interests of the millions of the land. Whatever other demands may be placed before the forthcoming Royal Commission, the gross anomaly by which a most reactionary House is allowed to throttle the voice of the people on such matters of sovereign importance as Money Bills on which the House of Lords also is bidden to hold its tongue, should be most emphatically condemned. But the unpatriotic action of the Council of State cannot justify the lack of organisation among the Nationalist forces which helped the Government to make the Legislative Assembly eat the humble pie and betray the poor. For the rest, we need hardly say that we take all the arguments of the Finance Member as juggling of the worst order and we are convinced that he could easily have devised a method for achieving the double purpose of reducing the salt-tax and of remitting the provincial contributions if he had willed to do so.

MESSAGE-RATE SYSTEM.

The Government of India have sanctioned the message-rate system for telephones without consulting many important business associations and in the face of the emphatic protest raised by some of the associations that were consulted. A telegram endorsed by many influential business associations was in consequence despatched to the Government protesting strongly against the message-rate system and pointing out that the chief causes of the troubles of the Bombay Telephone Company were traceable to its own miscalculations. Like many other business concerns the company was tempted by the trade boom conditions in 1919-20-21 into launching out on a very ambitious scheme of expansion and many thousand more lines were installed in anticipation of the boom than were actually needed. When the boom subsided and depression set in this supposed enormous demand faded away. This was, to describe it in a fashionable phrase, "an error of judgment" on the part of the Telephone Company. But is there any justice in penalising the subscribers for what was no fault of theirs? All this happened in the boom days when the Lloyd Pelly was perpetrated and the atmosphere was electric with speculation. So much may be said in extenuation of this lesser folly of the Telephone Company that it has been estimated that of the Company had stayed its ambition at 8000 lines instead of laying out 11000 lines it would have fully met the demand and reduced its new capital expenditure by about 20 to 25 lacs.

It is contended on behalf of the Telephone Company that there is no justification for the change made by various influential Indian trading concerns of "extravagant capital expenditure and unjustifiable watering of ordinary capital," and that it would have to pay the same costs if a new plant were installed. But, even admitting that a new plant is necessary now as a result of the "error of judgment" referred to above which has involved the Company into difficulties, the argument does not hold water in view of the very considerable fall in the prices of machinery particularly in the last five years. Nor does the argument of the increased costs of materials and labour carry weight by reason of the already sufficient allowance that has been made in the present flat-rate system to cover that increase.

The Telephone Company maintains that the advantages of the message-rate system have been attractively demonstrated by its success in Calcutta, but it is for gotten that the advantages are all on the side of the Company and that its undertaking in Calcutta has not yet passed the stage of experiment. Investigation into the question of the introduction of the message-rate system has gone on for a long time and the Indian Merchants' Chamber, not to mention other prominent Indian business associations, have for long exposed the fallacies urged as arguments on behalf of the Bombay Telephone Company. They have shown by convincing statistics that the small user stands to gain very little by the message-rate system, while the residential user, assuming he makes at least three calls a day, is actually out to lose. Business organisations, however, will be involved into easily three or four times the present costs and there will be considerable loss of patronage on the whole if Government persist in forcing the message-rate system on Bombay. We are glad that the Corporation has made a strong, though belated, protest against the introduction of the system and has rightly condemned the wrong and arbitrary procedure adopted by the Government of Bombay of excluding any representative of the Corporation from the Committee appointed by them to register their predetermined conclusions.

REVIVE THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

(BY S. V. LALIT.)

Last year in July the Hon. Sir Gulam Hussain happily conceived the idea of reviving the Local Self-government Conference, which had lapsed for nine years since 1917. Anyone going through the proceedings of that Conference will not fail to observe the identity in the proceedings of both the Conferences. However, the difference in results is there. While the Conference of 1917 originally proposed the organisation of a Local Self-government Institute, last year's Conference has actually brought it into existence. The Institute, it is hoped, will serve the purpose of a non-official secretariat for the Minister.

Why should not the Education Minister follow a similar course, is a question that naturally arises in every thinking mind. While the first Local Self-government Conference was held at Poona and was next invited to Bombay, the Educational Conference held its first session at Bombay and the next session was invited to Poona, since when it has lapsed. The question of Linguistic Universities, which was prominently raised in that Conference and to which Sir Chimanlal Setalwad—then member of Bombay Government—gave his whole-hearted support, in a speech at Poona, is still hanging fire. Divan Bahadur Harilalabhai, our present Minister of Education, is already known to be in favour of the idea. The University Reform Committee has recently put its seal of approval upon it. The difficulty, if any, is merely financial.

LINGUISTIC UNIVERSITIES.

In the case of Karnataka this can be easily overcome by joining hands with the Mysore University which is already functioning. The President of the Karnataka P.C.C. Mr. Srinivasa Kaulgali of Bijapur has, it is reported, already moved in the matter and has, in fact, received an assurance of full sympathy and co-operation from the present Dewan of Mysore. It is not very difficult to arrive at some suitable understanding and to have a joint Senate for British Karnataka and Mysore. Of course, public opinion in Karnataka must first be definitely ascertained, before the Hon. the Education Minister can make any official move in the matter. The Baroda University Commission has

already finished its report and although it is not yet definitely known, how far Gujarat, particularly Ahmedabad, would favour any idea of a joint Senate with Baroda, an Educational Conference, bringing together all educationists, interested in the matter will provide us the desired opportunity of sounding public opinion, and may happily result in some suitable solution.

A STRONG INFLUENCE.

In matters Educational, there need be no division like British India and Indian States. In fact, our Indian States have so far willingly accepted the jurisdiction of Universities of British India. Sir Frederick Whyte in his new book on Federal India has already given it as his opinion, that linguistic affinity, will soon prove so strong as to overcome even political divisions, much more easily there fore our educational divisions. Even supposing that Ahmedabad would not favour the prospect of yielding the place of honour to Baroda, the people there will certainly not allow the scheme of the Gujarat University to fail for want of finance.

Maharashtra is known to be poor, and has no Indian State in view, ready to finance such a big scheme. The inadequacy of money-power, will be made good by the abundant man-power of highly qualified men of a sacrificing spirit. Anyhow, the best course for Hon. D.B. Harilalabhai is to take the public into his confidence, place before them his definite proposals and requirements and given a sympathetic handling, the problem will not be found insoluble.

As for Sind, it may be safely said that his honourable colleague Sir Gulam Hussain, will not allow his own province to lag behind others.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.

Several other proposals for discussion in the Conference may be suggested. For example: (1) The organisation of English classes, in full grade primary schools (2) Utilization of private effort in promoting compulsory education (3) Provision for adult education (4) Employment bureaus (5) Facilities of special schools such as a school of languages (Indian and others).

(Continued On Page 10.)

SHIVAJI TRICENTENARY.

Mr. P. R. Lele writes—
If Mr. Mehendale, of Poona allowed his enthusiasm to get the better of his discretion, the Secretaries of the self-constituted Committee for the celebration of Shivaji's Tercentenary have left the "vast mass" of the public doubting whether their nationalism is greater or their sanity. They ask for the appointment of a small "Committee of expert scholars to settle the controversy as to the correct date of Shivaji's birth and make the suggestion that Government should take the initiative in the appointment. If we read the names of the members who have constituted themselves into the said committee, we shall see at least one Swarajist and one Gandhist. Mr. Nariman, disinterested, in his public speech in the Bombay Theatre the idea of seeking Government patronage in this matter. And yet we see the Secretaries coming out with the proposal that Government should "take the initiative of appointing a Committee" to settle the controversy.

Personally I do not object to Sir Leslie Wilson taking interest in the affair and shall even welcome him. But surely this is not a controversy in which the Government have any "locus standi." This is a matter of historical research. And supposing Government can appoint a "Committee" to settle the controversy? If at all such a flat will do anything, it will produce additional resentment and bitterness. It is even possible that truth should be defeated simply because the present sort of Indian Government supports it. How again can the Government enforce the decision of the Committee? Supposing the Government declare on the advice of the said Committee that 1927 is the correct year and in spite of it, the Poona Society of Historical Research resolved to observe the Tercentenary in 1930, will the Government be able to prevent it? Argument apart, "sentiment" of which so much has been made by the aforesaid Secretaries, is surely not going to be bridled by a decision supported by Government. In no way is it desirable that Government should have anything to do with the controversy. Let it be allowed to take its normal course. It is not a controversy which is going to interfere with the normal life in the country or with the progressive realisation of responsible government. In fact, the sting of the controversy will be lost after the celebration of the Tercentenary this year. If anybody interferes with such celebration, the executive Government will surely prevent such interference. It is no use calling names to the partisans of "1630." They have every right to preach their view and if they are honestly convinced that Shivaji was born in 1630 it is their duty to warn "the vast mass of general public" that they are doing wrong in celebrating the Tercentenary in 1927. And I am able to say this although as at present advised, I think Shivaji was born in 1627, I am, of course, willing to change my view if the "pro-change" party prove their case.

LOCAL BOARDS IN SIND

ALLEGED COMMUNAL BIAS IN TAXATION

To the Editor of "The Chronicle."

Sir—The manner in which the district local boards in Sind are discharging their duties needs the closest supervision by the Government of Bombay. More than one district local board has recently proposed taxation, the nature of which clearly proves that communal considerations largely guide the councils of the majority, to which rules the boards in Sind. I will quote the latest instance.

The main sources of the income of the Hyderabad district local board are: (1) local rate of one anna per rupee of land revenue (2) fisheries (3) one anna cess on Excise revenue and (4) grant from Government. The Hindu population resident within the district now contributes at the lowest calculation 40 p.c. of the local rate, 50 p.c. of the income from fisheries, 75 to 80 p.c. of the Excise revenue and 60 p.c. of the general revenues from which Government makes its grants to local boards. The total contribution of Hindus would come to at least 50 p.c. of the income of the board, though Hindus form less than 20 p.c. of the population of the board. The board has lately accumulated, according to the report of 1924-1925, the latest available balance of nearly a lakh and a half. But that apart, the above figures show that though forming only 20 p.c. of the population, Hindus are contributing at least 50 p.c. of the income.

Despite these facts, the board, wishing to increase its income proposed new taxation "the incidence of which will fall on Hindus to the extent of at least 90 p.c.," while appearing to tax professions or occupations, the proposals really constitute a tax on shopkeepers, so that, for example, while an ordinary Hindu vegetable seller earning 20 rupees a month has to bear the new burden, the Muslim carpenter or mason though earning even a rupee a day is exempted. There was a natural hue and cry at this unfair tax. Thousands of Hindus submitted petitions to the district local board but all to no purpose. The Muslim majority in the board turned without compunction a deaf ear to all these petitions or to the appeals of the Hindu members of the board and by the sheer weight of their number confirmed the proposals for the new taxation, rejecting equally heartlessly amendments proposing reductions in the rates of taxation. This though Hindus are contributing much more than their proportionate share of the income of the board they have to bear this new taxation for having committed the offence of being following of the Hindu religion.

The same communal bias is manifested by the board in its expenditure even at the cost of the public interest. One very recent example will illustrate my point. The Hyderabad district local board every year farms out the rent of the Travellers' Bungalow. This year a Hindu resident of Hyderabad filled in the tender and so did a Mahomedan. The Hindu bidder was prepared to pay a sum which was found to be higher than the amount offered by the Mahomedan and he was also from the point of view of financial position and social status and respectability a far more satisfactory party to deal with and yet the

(Continued on page 10.)

Notes of the Day.

A Dignified Rebuke.

Dr. Malan's dignified rebuke in the Union Parliament to the mischief-makers in South Africa who are steadily attempting to prejudice reasonable White opinion against the Indian settlement by publishing reckless and scandalous allegations of "palm-greasing" ought to be a sufficient warning to them of the futility of their methods. Mr. Oellerman's allegations to this effect were in the opinion of Dr. Malan of "so insulting a nature" that the Union Government would take no action in regard to them. This is the right attitude. The accusation that the Indian Delegation went to South Africa with bags of gold and indulged in "palm-greasing" is beneath contempt, but it indicates to what a level of depravity extreme White opinion in South Africa can sink in its hatred of Indians. We hope the good sense of the two communities in the country will scorn to notice such depravity and agree to work the "Gentlemen's Agreement" in a spirit of real co-operation.

Ghastly Fatalities.

A ghastly tragedy has occurred in the Belgum District; nay, it continues even now to be repeated under the aegis of our civilised Government. Even though it is the obvious duty of the police and the medical departments to take special precautions for the health and safety of the thousands that gather at religious fairs, a dead body appears to have been allowed to be decomposed in a tank near Sogal for about fifteen days and to have poisoned the water, causing 30 deaths before the rot cause was discovered. Nor was this all. The guardians of public health seem so far to have forgotten their duty.

As actually to allow the deadly infection to spread to a neighbouring place, Yemanur, where again a fair was being held and where, as many as 1,200 persons are reported to have succumbed to the disease in a single day. But may we hope that now at least the Taluqa or District Local Board, the Collector of the District and the Chief Medical Officer will take immediate steps to stem the progress of the dreadful epidemic? They ought also to be called upon to explain their gross negligence in the matter. In the meanwhile, it may be safely stated that the heavy toll is undoubtedly due to the low level of vitality of our people due to poverty which is, to no small extent, the result of the present system of Government.

Nagpur's Example.

Why should not other Municipalities in India follow the example of the Nagpur Municipality and demand total prohibition of liquor within municipal limits? The Nagpur Municipal Committee took the courageous step of resolving upon such prohibition by passing Mr. Baagari Lal's motion to that effect although so many as ten members voted against it. This only shows that although the vested interests are keen on retaining the evil of drinking, the general sense of the community is decidedly for eradicating it as soon as possible. The Minister for Excise in the C. P. will now do well to meet the wishes of the Nagpur Municipality by insisting upon retrenchment in other branches of the Administration and thus making up the loss when the liquor shops within the Nagpur Municipal area are allowed to be closed by Government.

Reformatory Institutions.

In presiding over the prize distribution ceremony of the David Sassoon Industrial and Reformatory Institution the other day Sir Leslie Wilson aptly remarked that a well-trained healthy lad going out into the world with hope and determination is a great asset to any nation or country. It is a particularly pleasant feature of the annual report of the Institution at Matunga that it has succeeded in giving such a kind of training to nearly five thousand boys since its inception. The latest report of the Reformatory School, Yerwada, also refers to the fact that for the first time during the existence of the reformatories in Bombay and Poona football and cricket matches were played between their students and we trust the hope expressed in it that such pleasant functions should be made annual will be realised. But the important question is how far Society receives back into its folds these young reformatory inmates who have to be sent to reformatories for crimes of a trivial nature. The boys who pass out from the Matunga reformatory do find employment, says the report, and their employers have had no complaints to make about them.

A Question of Importance.

But we hope steps will be taken, as the need of after-care institutions becomes increasingly felt, in order to deal satisfactorily with the question of the future course of life of juveniles passing out of reformatories, to eliminate from their minds the distressing idea that they are permanently branded with disgrace because of their past delinquency. The Reformatory Schools ought to be allowed to come into frequent contact in the way of sporting competitions with other schools. We are glad that such competitions are now being held. The boys of the Yerwada Reformatory particularly have been trained to give special attention to this and the Superintendent has successfully conducted the Institution on the wholesome principle which should guide the work of all reformatories, that freedom can safely be given to children and adolescents even of the "wastrel" and "criminal" types. When the boys pass out into the wider life of the world, the training that they have received in the Reformatories will be lost upon them if Society makes the mistake of looking upon them as a class apart, as a class which has something to be ashamed of. On the contrary they should be made to feel that their early mistake is a forgotten episode.

NO NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SHANGHAI.

BRITAIN WANTS ASSURANCE BEFORE SURRENDERING RIGHTS.

SPECIAL CABINET MEETING.

The British Cabinet sat for two hours on Monday to discuss the situation in China. In the House of Commons, Sir A. Chamberlain said no negotiations with regard to Shanghai were progressing at present, and that there would be no surrender of British rights unless assurance was given that the Chinese authorities could preserve order. While the Peking Legation of the United States has been instructed to close the U.S. Consulates at Changsha and Chongking and the withdrawal of gunboats from there, another message says that "in view of the threatening position at Shanghai, Admiral Williams is concentrating there all ships which can be spared from the other points."

U. S. CONCENTRATION AT SHANGHAI

LONDON, March 23. Before proceeding to the Chequers on Saturday, Mr. Baldwin warned his colleagues that the situation in China might probably necessitate a special cabinet meeting to-day. Messages since received by the admiralty from Yangtze were communicated to Mr. Baldwin yesterday. Cabinet sat for two hours to-day.—Reuter.

NO NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SHANGHAI.

"ASSURANCE OF ORDER BEFORE SURRENDER OF BRITISH RIGHTS".

LONDON, March 23. In the House of Commons, replying to questions Sir A. Chamberlain said that no negotiations with regard to Shanghai were progressing at present. It was impossible to negotiate fruitfully in the present anarchical conditions.

After referring to the Hankow Agreement he said that we must be assured that conditions were such that the Chinese authorities could preserve order, where that authority existed before, we made any further surrender of British rights. (Loud Ministerial cheers).—Reuter.

U. S. IN EARNEST.

TWO CONSULATES TO BE CLOSED AND GUNBOATS WITHDRAWN.

LONDON, March 23. Peking.—Mr. Kellogg has authorized the United States Legation to issue instructions for the closing of the United States Consulates at Changsha and Chungking and the withdrawal of gunboats from there as soon as adequate opportunity is given for the remaining Americans to withdraw.—Reuter.

U. S. CONCENTRATION AT SHANGHAI

LONDON, March 23. Washington.—The Navy Department an-

A MOMENTOUS SESSION

PREPARATIONS FOR HINDU MAHASABHA

IMPORTANT ISSUES TO BE DECIDED.

PATNA, Mar. 23. Arrangements for the tenth session of the Hindu Mahasabha, to be held here during the ensuing Easter holidays are in rapid progress. The site chosen for the association is completely open very spacious and has been obtained from the Khas Mahal authorities.

Many ruling Chiefs, Rajas, Zemindars and other prominent Hindu leaders in the country including Lala Lalpat Rai Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Mr. Srinivas Iyengar, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Mr. Prakasham, Mr. Ghanshyam Desai and Mr. Ramaswami are expected to attend the sessions.

The session of the Mahasabha promises to be very important in view of the fact that the most burning problems of joint electorates and communal representation are coming up for discussion. Along with the Hindu Mahasabha there will also be held the first session of the All-India Achutodhar Conference and a special session of the All-India Shudhi Conference. For the former more than half a dozen workers of the Delhi Achutodhar Sabha, some of whom are also members of the Tilak School of Politics, have already arrived and are touring the province.—Free Press.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DELEGATES.

All delegates attending the 10th Hindu Mahasabha at Patna are requested to label their luggage clearly and conspicuously as they will facilitate the work of sorting and thereby ensure the safety and proper delivery of the luggage to their owners. They are also requested to bring with them their bedding and specially their own mosquito curtains, without which they will be very much inconvenienced. They are also requested to write to the Secretary, Accommodation Department, the time of the arrival at Patna.

nowing that in view of the threatening position at Shanghai, Admiral Williams is concentrating there all ships which can be spared from the other points. 1,500 marines ordered for China on Saturday will sail, next week, from San Diego, and will be known as the Sixth Regiment of marines. The attached force will be an entire aviation squadron, and twelve bombing and fighting planes.—Reuter.

"ORGANISED OUTRAGES".

LONDON, March 23. Shanghai.—Statements of the victims of the Nationalist troops at Nanking have been carefully collected by responsible authorities. It is declared they show conclusively that the outrages were highly organized and undoubtedly prearranged. A message from Peking states that an examination of the depositions and statements of reliable American witnesses prove that the outrages included at least two cases of attempted criminal assault on American women.—Reuter.

SUFFICIENT FRENCH FORCES

LONDON, March 23. Shanghai.—The French Consul-General has declared the forces available in the French Concession sufficient for any emergency.—Reuter.

ALLEGED AGGRESSION BY MONGOLS.

LONDON, March 23. Peking.—The civil Governor of Sinkiang has telegraphed to the Northern Government stating that the Mongolian troops of Kobdo invaded Sinkiang and declaring that since the control of Outer Mongolia had fallen into Soviet hands the Mongols had been emboldened to carry out more aggressive acts against Chinese territory and urging the Peking Government to protest strongly and request the recall of Russian military advisers from Mongolia.—Reuter.

"THE SWARAJIST BETRAYAL."

"JUSTICES" CRITICISE SWARAJIST POLICY.

MADRAS, Mar. 23. Prominent members of the Justice Party spoke tonight at the Soundarya Mahal under the auspices of the South Indian Liberal Federation, on "The Swarajist Betrayal." Mr. Krishnan Nair recalled the attitude of the Madras Swarajists towards the Independent Ministry during the voting of Budget demands, and remarked that the Swarajists, instead of breaking Darchy, actually proceeded to perpetuate it.

Mr. Munuswami Naidu of Chittoor characterised the present Ministry as a bogus one, and observed that the real Ministers were the leaders of the Swaraj Party, who were pulling the strings.

The Raja of Panagal said that as members of the opposition Justice Party members has excellent opportunities to prove their mettle, and he was glad that his Party had succeeded in exposing the shallowness of Swarajist shibboleths. He drew attention to the Swarajist retreat, and said that the impression created by it on the minds of the authorities was very regrettable.

Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliar deplored the action of the Swarajists, and said that the Justice Party was more determined than ever to usher in an era of social, political and religious justice. The Independents had no policy worth the name, and their Ministers were glad to the Treasury Benches in spite of defeats, while the Justice Party had not had a single reverse during six years of office.—A.P.

HAVOC OF CYCLONE.

CALCUTTA, Mar. 23. Information has reached here that on the 26th instant, at 5.30 p.m., a terrific cyclone, accompanied by heavy rain, blew over Nawabpur and neighbouring villages in Feni Sub-Division, and swept away a large number of houses, including the Nawabur Dispensary Building, the Primary School, the Co-operative Bank office and many bangers.—A.P.

WORK THE CHARKHA

MRS. NAIDU'S APPEAL TO GIRL STUDENTS.

"SWARAJ RESTS IN YOUR TINY HANDS."

LAHORE, Mar. 23. "There is a friend who holds you as the dearest beings on earth and believes that the attainment of Swaraj rests in your tiny hands. That man is Mahatma Gandhi. Today he lies seriously ill from overwork. His message to you is to work the Charkha. If you do that, you would feel like him for the poor in cottages, who have not a rag to cover them, not a morsel to feed them." Such was the exhortation which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu made to the girls of the Vedic Putri Patashala after giving away the prizes.

Dr. Gopichand, on behalf of the Managing Committee, assured Mrs. Naidu that they would do their best to introduce the spinning wheel in the school.—A.P.

NO PERMITS TO HAJ PILGRIMS.

PERSIAN GOVT'S COMMUNIQUE

LUCKNOW, Mar. 23. In a cable received at Lucknow recently the Persian Foreign Minister contradicted the news published in India through Egyptian sources, to the effect that the Persian Government had permitted the Haj pilgrimage to be performed this year. The cable states that the Persian

MAHATMA FEELS BETTER.

TO GO TO BELGAUM?

NIPANI, Mar. 23. The following message has been received from Mahadev Desai.

Gandhiji's health shows distinct improvement to-day. Other conditions are quite satisfactory, though there is weakness. He is proceeding to Belgaum to-morrow. Sri. Rajagopalachari who came last evening has already issued a statement. Mahatma's Southern India tour including that of Karnataka has been cancelled for the present. The doctors say that absolute rest is necessary. He is taking rest in Belgaum.—Free Press.

LET MONEY COLLECTION PROCEED.

MR. C. R. CHARIAR REACHES NIPANI

MADRAS, Mar. 23. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari wires from Belgaum:—"I arrived here on Monday evening. Mahatma Gandhi is still at Nipani. Telegrams received here report that his health is better. I find that there is no room for anxiety."

Mr. Rajagopalachari adds that he is proceeding to Nipani, 43 miles from Belgaum, by motor. Mrs. Gandhi and Messrs. Mahadev Desai, Krishna Dass and Deshpande are attending on Mr. Gandhi.—A.P.

MAHATMA ANXIOUS TO RESUME TOUR.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari wires from Nipani under date March 23:—"Though the blood pressure is still high, Mahatma Gandhi is otherwise free from any bad symptoms. Neither speech nor limbs are affected. He is, however, weak. The doctors have, of course, advised the cancellation of the tour programme, but he is far from being reconciled to it, and is still hopeful that if the programme is so lightened that he may not have to visit too many places, and if people can dispense with speeches and discussions of any kind, it may still be possible to undertake the southern tour."

However, everything must be decided in consultation with the doctors, after seeing how he fares in the next few days. It is requested that no letters may be addressed to him. His friends should expect no letters from him either. Nothing will please Mr. Mahatma better than that everything, including the work of collection of money, should go on as if nothing has happened.—A.P.

Government had stopped issuing passports to intending pilgrims this year too, as in the previous two years. No Persian subject will be allowed to go to Mecca for the Haj.—A.P.

MAYORALTY OF CALCUTTA.

MR. J. M. SEN GUPTA'S PROSPECTS IMPROVING

CALCUTTA, Mar. 23. "The Englishman" understands that the Mayor of Calcutta, Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, will shortly meet the Muslim representatives returned to the Corporation and discuss the prospects and conditions of their joining hands with the Congress Party.

There are said to be a number of supporters now for both Mr. A. Ramesh and Mr. Wahed Hussain for the office of Deputy Mayor.

The prospects of the re-election of Mr. Sen Gupta as Mayor appear to have considerably improved during the last few days.—A.P.

GROTESQUE INSINUATIONS.

ALLEGED PALM GREASING IN S. AFRICA.

DR. MALAN'S REPLY IN ASSEMBLY

LONDON, Mar. 23. Cape Town.—In the Assembly, Mr. Alexander drew the attention of the Dr. Malan, Minister of Interior, to the interview with Mr. Oellermann in the "Natal Mercury" under the headline "Allegations of Palm-greasing" in which Mr. Oellermann has asked "whether the position of Dr. Malan and Mr. Andrews in their respective churches was responsible for the attitude on the Indian question or whether certain 'suspicions' were at all justified which 'time alone would show.'" The interview proceeded:—"Mr. Oellermann referred to the rumour heard from a prominent old Natalian that £100,000 had been brought to South Africa from India to be used to create a spirit of artificial satisfaction at the Agreement reached between the representatives of the two Governments." Mr. Alexander asked what steps would be taken in view of these serious public allegations.

Dr. Malan replied that these grotesque insinuations were of such an insulting nature not only to the Government but also to peoples of South Africa and India that they merited no reply. Government would take no action.—Reuter's Special.

INDIAN AUXILIARY FORCE.

LONDON, Mar. 23. Replying to Mr. Walter Baker, Lord Winterton said in the House of Commons, that Lord Birkenhead was still considering the Government of India's views on the Indian Auxiliary Force Committee's report. He was unable to say at present when decisions were likely to be reached.—Reuter.

S. S. "PILSNA" ON FIRE.

LONDON, Mar. 23. Port Said.—The steamer "Pilsna" has been beached to facilitate the flooding of the hold containing Jute, which has caught fire. Later.—The steamer "Pilsna" is steaming without success. The fire has not yet been extinguished in number two hold, which is being flooded.—Reuter's Special.



The Hon. Mr. V. J. Patel, who arrives in Bombay to-day at the Grant Road Station at 11 a.m.

DEBATE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

LORD BIRKENHEAD TO MAKE ANNUAL STATEMENT

LONDON, Mar. 23. The debate on public affairs in India will be held on 30th March, when Lord Birkenhead will make an annual statement on India.—Reuter.

SERIOUS RIOTS IN SINGAPORE

PARADE OF RIFLES AND LEWIS GUNS

LONDON, Mar. 23. Singapore.—Serious developments have occurred in connection with the police shootings. There have been ugly clashes between the mob and the police and consequently troops with rifles and Lewis guns are patrolling streets tonight.—Reuter.

ALLEGED CHEATING OF BANK.

CALCUTTA, Mar. 23. On the petition of the Puri agent of the Central Bank of India, Calcutta Branch, the Chief Presidency Magistrate directed issue of a warrant of arrest against one Gokuldas of Messrs. Narandas Methandas & Co. on charge of cheating the Central Bank in respect of Rs. 50,000. It was alleged that the accused had two hundies on the Bombay branch of Rs. 50,000 while he himself drew the amount by cheque from the current account hundies being dishonoured.

The prosecution counsel informed the Court that out of the amount in question, Rs. 33,000 had been traced from the accused's account book, 7,000 being sent to his wife and 20,000 to his uncle's in Bombay.—Free Press.

THE MUSLIM PROPOSALS

ACCEPT OR REJECT IN ENTIRETY.

GIVING SECURITY AND CONFIDENCE TO MINORITIES

In a statement to the press, Mr. Jinnah declares that the separation of Sindh and the introduction of the Reforms in N. W. Frontier are conditions precedent to the settlement. The Muslim offer is inter-dependent and can only be accepted or rejected in its entirety. The end in view is that Mussalmans should be made to feel that they are secure and safeguarded against the Hindu majority during the transitional period.

MR. JINNAH ON THE REAL ISSUE.

Mr. M. A. Jinnah has issued the following to the Press:—

The Mussalman leaders' offer to Hindus is not, perhaps, fully appreciated both by Hindus and Mussalmans. This appears to be so because of certain communications that I have received and the interpretation put upon it in certain sections of the Press and the opinions expressed. I, therefore, wish to make it clear that the offer to accept a settlement on the basis of the proposal made therein is subject to what I would call conditions precedent before Mussalmans would be prepared to accept joint electorates with reservation of seats.

These conditions are 'sine qua non':—

1. That Sindh should be separated from Bombay Presidency and constituted into a separate province;

2. That reforms should be introduced in North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan on the same footing as any other province in India and Hindus should agree to support this demand of the Mussalmans.

It is in the event of these conditions being accepted that the Mussalmans would agree to joint electorates with reservation of seats in all the provinces and make the same concession to the Hindu minorities in the matter of number of representation in three provinces of Sindh, North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan, as the Hindu majority provinces would be prepared to make to Mussalman minorities. This matter of concessions can be discussed and settled by the responsible committees that may be appointed by the two communities respectively.

THE CASE OF PUNJAB AND BENGAL.

In the Punjab and Bengal the proportion of representation should be in accordance with population. In the Central Legislature Mussalman representation should not be less than one-third, also through mixed electorates with reservation of seats.

This offer is inter-dependent, and can only be accepted or rejected in its entirety. The Hindu leaders have, in their meeting held in Delhi on 23rd March, 1921, appointed a committee consisting of representatives of all provinces to frame definite proposals after consulting Hindu opinion and make an early report. I, therefore, trust that the country will give the fullest consideration to the offer that is made, without any heat or passion being created and in a calm and impartial atmosphere.

I may point out that in this offer, which is far-reaching, the most notable feature is its recognition that separate electorates can only be got rid of by a thorough adoption of the system of give and take. I trust that it will be criticised in a spirit of toleration.

The question of separate electorates or mixed electorates are after all a method and a means to an end. The end in view is that Mussalmans should be made to feel that they are secured and safeguarded against any act of oppression on the part of the majority and that they need not fear that during the transitional stage towards the development of a National Government, the majority would be in a position to oppress or tyrannise the minority as majorities are prone to do in other countries. It must be recognised that under the circumstances and under prevailing conditions it is essential that the political equipoise must be maintained. It is to maintain this balance that the Mussalmans have taken a simpler and more just method with the reciprocity clause. If this main proposition were accepted by the Hindus, then I feel that it will lead to a hopeful atmosphere and a settlement is within the view that separate electorates will reach.

NOT WEDDED TO SEPARATE ELECTORATES.

I am personally not wedded to separate electorates, although I must say that the overwhelming majority of Mussalmans firmly and honestly believe that that is the only method by which they can be secure. I think there are advantages and disadvantages.

REPLY TO THE DEPUTATION

CALCUTTA, Mar. 23. The Hon. Mr. Mubarek received a deputation of Indians this morning in connection with the question of eight years

advantages in a system of separate electorates. Yet I am not prepared to subscribe to the view that separate electorates will constitute an effective bar to the growth and development of a representative Government. On the other hand, I cannot say that the acceptance mixed electorates system is free from objections under the prevailing conditions or that it will create complete nationalism the next day. The question, therefore, of a system of separate or mixed electorates is, as I said before, more a question of method and means to an end. Therefore, the real issue is how to give a real sense of confidence and security to the minorities.

The other questions, namely, the formula regarding the share of Mussalmans in the services of country, safeguards in the legislatures against bills and resolutions which may affect religion, custom, usage or inter-communal interest, and the question regarding other elective bodies can, I think, be solved if the major proposal contained in the offer could be agreed upon.

As soon as I receive a definite answer to the offer from Hindu leaders, the next step I would like to take would be to call a meeting of the members of the Central Committee of the All-India Muslim League, the Committee appointed by the Khilafat Conference, the Executive Members of the Jamiat-ul-Ulema, the Muslim members of the Council of State and the Assembly at an early date, and may form a small Committee at this meeting with a view to discuss other matters with the Committee or Committees that the Congress, the Mahasabha and other political organisations in the country may appoint, and then any settlement that may be finally arrived at by these Committees would, of course, be subject to ratification by the various organisations of the country, both Hindu and Mussalman.

I may in conclusion say that no time should be lost in bringing about a speedy settlement at this critical juncture.

"ONLY A TENTATIVE SCHEME."

MR. W. YAKUB ON JOINT ELECTORATES.

NEW DELHI, Mar. 23.

Maulana Muhammad Yakub, a leading member of the Assembly, in a statement to the Associated Press on the subject of joint electorates, says that the misapprehensions of some Mussalmans about the tentative scheme of constitutional reforms adopted by an informal meeting of some prominent Mussalmans are quite premature. In the first place, the scheme is only a tentative and preliminary basis for a settlement. The Mussalmans who adopted this scheme have made it quite clear that it will not be binding until it is ratified by representative Muslim organisations in India. For this purpose, Mr. Jinnah has addressed all representative Muslim organisations to nominate their representatives to attend a meeting of Muslims which he intends to invite to Bombay shortly, in order to discuss the matter. In the second place, the scheme does not mean the total extinction of separate electorates, because if Hindus in Provinces in which, according to the scheme, they will be in a minority desire to have separate electorates for their community, Mussalmans in Provinces in which they are in a minority will also reciprocally be entitled to separate electorates in those provinces.

The scheme is intended only to find out whether the Hindus are willing to place themselves under Muslim majorities even in a small part of the country, when they want Mussalmans to place themselves under Hindu majorities in a large portion of the country. I earnestly appeal to my co-religionists not to be over-alarmed and not to be too hasty in giving public expression to their views before they have heard from the promoters of the scheme."—A.P.

rigorous imprisonment passed on Khag Bahadur Singh. Replying to their address, Mr. Moberly admitted that the sentence was unnecessarily severe, and assured them that he would place the matter before his Excellency the Governor, after consulting the Chief Justice and the Commissioner of Police.—A.P.

ALL DUE TO HIGH ASSESSMENT.

MR. DESAI'S INDICTMENT OF REVENUE POLICY.

METEOROLOGISTS INDIFFERENT TO AGRICULTURAL NEEDS.

INTERESTING EVIDENCE BEFORE ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture in India met again at the Town Hall on Tuesday morning and examined several witnesses, the first of them being Rao Sahib Dadubhai P. Desai, member of the Legislative Council for Kaira.

UNSATISFACTORY RESEARCH.

In his statement Rao Sahib Desai maintained that the research work was not at all satisfactory. It suffered from the lack of continuity of policy and perhaps shifting of persons in charge. The research work on a particular crop or on a soil required to be carried out for a number of years before any good result could be expected; e. g., cotton research and improvement had been taken up by the Agricultural Department since its inauguration, but the witness did not think that any appreciable progress had resulted from the labours of the research department. It might be also due to want of funds and skilled workers.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

Rao Sahib D. P. Desai pointed out that the supply of teachers and institutions was not sufficient. He suggested that every district should have at least one Agricultural School where elementary lessons in carpentry and smithy should be given and boys should be especially trained in the use of indigenous implements and in the knowledge of the nature and habits of the crops and of the agricultural stock of the locality. There should also be one secondary school of agriculture and industry in each division of the Presidency, which should include in its curriculum agricultural economics and study of all the allied industries such as spinning, weaving, dairying, fruit preservation and the like.

The witness then gave many reasons to explain why cultivators did not receive the benefits of the experimental farms.

WANTED FROM CENTRAL GOVT. HELP.

The witness made it sufficiently clear that the Bombay Government, like its agricultural population, was heavily in debt and it won't be in a position to allot any additional grant for the improvement of Agriculture. Government of India, therefore, should come to the help of the Bombay Government and grant necessary funds. The Bombay Presidency, he stated, had reached the limit of its taxable capacity. Government of India, however, could help the province indirectly viz., by lowering the Railway rates on agricultural produce and the travelling charges of the agricultural labourers. Besides they could impose export duties on bones and oil cakes used as manure. Agriculture was a transferred subject and all experts engaged by the Government should be under the control of the Council.

EXORBITANT RATES.

Proceeding Rao Sahib D. P. Desai told the Commissioners that the main causes of borrowing were the higher cost of production and comparatively less return and the demands of Government, which compelled a ryot to borrow money from the money-lender at a very high rate of interest. The witness emphasised the fact that so long as the present land revenue policy remained unaltered, financial condition of the ryot could not improve. Selling below cost, inelastic and unbearable Government demands and high rates of interest were the economic tragedies of the agricultural life of the Bombay Presidency.

FRAGMENTATION OF HOLDINGS.

The witness argued that fragmentation of holdings could not be checked or prevented so long as Hindu Law of Inheritance was in existence; but the state could put the agriculturists in a position whereby that class would be enabled to remedy the evils of fragmentation. The state could remodel the Land Revenue Policy which was the root cause of all the evils. It could also lend money to the agriculturists with which they could buy the neighbouring unoccupied plots and thereby make their own holdings economic. The danger was that the moment the cultivators improved their holdings and made them economic, the state would be down upon them and demand higher revenue. Rao Sahib Desai was of opinion that unless and until sufficient industries were started in the country and the doors of the colonies are opened to the Indians, the question of fragmentation should be shelved.

GUJARAT HEAVILY TAXED.

Examined orally, Rao Sahib Dadubhai P. Desai substantiated the arguments he had advanced in his written statement.

Sir Chunilal Mehta:—Would you have assessment reduced in all taxes?

Rao Sahib Desai:—Yes. In the taxes that directly affect agriculturists.

To another question of Sir Chunilal

the witness replied, that it was the duty of the Government to provide more money for agricultural education and development. His further contention was that the peasants of Gujarat were especially very heavily taxed.

RAO BAHADUR NAIK'S EVIDENCE.

Rao Bahadur B. R. Naik, the President of District Local Board, Surat and a member of the Indian Central Cotton Committee, in his replies to the general questionnaire, emphasised the necessity of improving agricultural education.

To a question of the President, the witness replied that neither the wishes nor the requirements of peasants were considered by the Government while assessing the lands.

POSITION OF INAMDARS.

Questioned by the Hon. Mr. B. S. Kamat, the witness replied that it was a standing complaint of Gujarat that it got very little for irrigation in comparison to the vast sums of money spent on irrigation in the Deccan and Sind. He wanted that complaint to be removed. Further questioned, Rao Bahadur Naik explained the position of the Inamdars in Gujarat. Inamdars, he avowed, had no powers to enhance the assessment. It all rested with the Government. Inamdars were the owners of lands only in name.

Replying to a question of Sir James McKenna, the witness boldly stated that Government were major partners in the agricultural prosperity and as such it was their duty to see that agriculture was kept on a high level of efficiency.

KIRLOSKAR FACTORY.

The Commission then examined the representatives of Messrs. Kirloskar Brothers Ltd., manufacturers of agricultural implements. In the written statement they stated that their factory was at present employing 500 men on an average and was in a position to manufacture one lakh ploughs of a given type in one year, if so required.

THEIR DIFFICULTIES.

They then enumerated the difficulties which they experienced in the manufacture of cheap agricultural implements. One was the duty on steel, which was very heavy, in their opinion. They were not in any way against levying protective duties on steel but their submission was that the manufacturers of agricultural implements should be given a preferential treatment. Yet one more difficulty was the want of proper designs suitable to the different soils of India. With regard to the sale of these ploughs they suggested that the central purchasing body of the Government of India should guarantee to purchase a minimum number of implements every year, ensure for the manufacturers a steady amount of income and would also considerably help to reduce the prices. After the representatives of Kirloskar Brothers Ltd. had answered several questions orally, the Commission rose for lunch.

MR. NAGPURKAR'S EVIDENCE.

Resuming after lunch, the Commission examined Mr. S. D. Nagpurkar, M. A. At the outset the witness placed before the Commissioners his own point of view regarding the problem of agriculture in India, particularly the agriculture of Western India, with which he had been connected on account of his avocation for more than 15 years. Continuing he said:—

"The Agricultural problem of India is mainly a problem of dry cultivation. Government statistics show and all agree with them that more than 85 per cent. of Indian land depends for its moisture supplied by the rains direct to the soil during a period of about three to four months out of the year. Even if all the thinkable sources of irrigation be exploited the percentage of dry arable land will not go down below 50 per cent. of the total."

Dry Agriculture in India, under present conditions is more or less a risky business. The rainfall extends over a period of 2 to 4 months, it is ill-distributed, and never certain. During three years out of five it is generally less than average and one year out of seven in generally dry.

Dry farming cannot by itself keep occupied those that depend upon it as their avocation for more than six months in the year. No country in the world can prosper with 70 per cent. to 80 per cent. of its population remaining idle during six months out of every twelve. In India the average income per head per annum, taken most liberally, is not more than Rs. 50.

ADMINISTRATION.

The present political divisions were unsuitable to agricultural conditions. He

ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY.

ALLEGED DEFECTIVE CONSTITUTION.

GOVT. TO INSTITUTE ENQUIRY.

ALIGARH, March 29. The local Government, it is understood, has decided to institute an enquiry into the alleged defective constitution and unsatisfactory administration of the Aligarh Muslim University. The personnel of the Committee is not yet settled, but it will be known in a week's time.

It is further stated that Her Highness the Chancery of the University will be asked to institute that enquiry on her own behalf.—Free Press.

USE OF WHITE LEAD IN PAINT.

LONDON, March 28.

Replying to Rhys Davies in the House of Commons, Lord Winterston said that the letter of the Federation of British Industries suggesting that he Bombay Government should follow the example of the British Government in regulating, instead of prohibiting, the use of white lead in paint had been communicated to the Government of India. Lord Birkenhead would enquire with regard to the present attitude of the Government of Bombay. Any trade union representation contrary to those of the Federation would also be communicated to Government of India.—Ruter.

ORGANISATION OF SANYASIS

FOR MORAL AND SPIRITUAL UPLIFT OF INDIA.

(From a Correspondent.)

HARDWAR, Mar. 28.

Acharya Swami Pranabanda, President, Bharat Sevashram Sangha, arrived here on 26th instant with the mission of Sanyasis Organisation. Swami is trying to organise a band of powerful and educated Sanyasis for moral and spiritual uplift of India. With the help of these Sanyasis



"Chronicle" Photo.
Mr. P. G. Rogers, C.I.E., I.C.S. (right), the Postmaster-General of Bombay, who is appointed Deputy Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, and Mr. D. Benjeri, Director of Telegraphs, Western Circle, who succeeds Mr. Rogers as Postmaster-General.

Swami will start aeratics, maths and educational institutions at different places in India, like those that have been already established by him at Gaya, Banaras and Puri. In connection with this organisation many Sanyasis of Hardwar, Kanthal and Irishikah are interviewing the Swami.

would alter the existing divisions from a farmer's point of view. Each agricultural province, he added, should be a complete unit as regards its agricultural problems and their solutions. The agricultural service, as it was constituted, was not in time with the agriculturists.

METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Nagpurkar contended that the meteorological department had been in existence for a number of years and had been making observations and collecting data but the point of view had all along been the service of navigation. That department was oblivious of the utility of Science to Agriculture. Old Josthis (Astrologers) of the villages were doing some little service to the farmer in their own empirical methods. The witness opined that with the present advance of the science of meteorology, the department ought to be able to render some help to the cultivator.

ADULT EDUCATION.

Mr. B. R. Ransing, Secretary Dhulia Taluk Agricultural Association, was the last witness examined on Tuesday. In his written statement, he dwelt on the question of adult education in agriculture "inter alia." He stated that the adult education could be popularised by the following methods:—(1) Village libraries; (2) Magic Lantern and Cinema instructions and (3) Night classes.

To prevent pupils from lapsing back to illiteracy, which often happened among such adults, the witness suggested, that encouragement should be given for discussions, essays and other means. The Punjab Government had undertaken the adult education on those lines and the results were encouraging.

The Commission adjourned till Wednesday 10 a.m.

"FAR FROM CREDITABLE."

ASSEMBLY'S ACHIEVEMENTS.

MR. KELKAR'S VIEW.

DELHI, Mar. 29. Interviewed on the achievement of the last session of the Assembly Mr. N. C. Kelkar said "We had a very busy and prolonged session but for the non-official business we did not get more than four days. On the other hand we did not carry out any considerable number of legislative measures. All this was due, in my opinion, to the congestion carried by the Ratio Bill. If that were taken up at early stage the way would have been clear for other business, but Sir Basil Blackett interlocked the Budget and the Ratio Bill in such a manner that there was hardly any room for other business. In the agreement, however, the present session was a complete triumph for Government, for they got the Steel Protection and Ratio Bills exactly as they wanted, nor was their position shaken in any way in the matter of the Budget and the Finance Bill. No doubt the Assembly defeated Government making a number of drastic cuts. But even in this matter, I think, we did better in the last Assembly. In my view, there were two twin causes of these results which were far from creditable to the new Assembly consisting as it does of even better men than the last Assembly.

SWARAJYA PARTY.

The first is that, apart from the Swarajya Party and the Nationalist Party sitting apart, the Swaraj Party itself was less disciplined and less coherent than ever before. Like changing horses in the stream, the party was practically, led alternately by two leaders whose combination was not a plus but minus quantity. The Nationalist Party on the whole did better than the Swarajya Party though even here, I must say, there was an appearance of and also to a certain extent, divided leaderships.

The second reason in my opinion is that these two parties did not get as much support from Mr. Jinnah and his followers as we got in the Assembly.

I only hope that now that a working

1,200 DIE IN ONE DAY!

HAVOC OF CHOLERA AT SOGAL FAIR.

EPIDEMIC SPREADS TO 100-MILE RADIUS

RESULT OF DRINKING FILTHY WATER.

BIJAPUR, Mar. 29.

The cholera epidemic that has broken out at Sogal Fair in the Belgum District has wrought havoc. Villages and towns within a radius of 100 miles have been affected and dead bodies are picked from the wayside.

The cause of the outbreak, it is now discovered, was due to the drinking of filthy

water from a tank wherein a person was drowned and his body was decomposed for sixteen days. Within two days, fifty were dead and many more affected.

Then the pilgrims went to the fair at Yemanur from Sogal, and though they were asked to be careful, another epidemic broke out, resulting in the loss of 1,200 lives in one day.—Free Press.

decision does not make my regret for my absence less poignant. We have lost heavily in this session owing to the absence of a number of members of the People's Party. I will propose that the People's Party, if it is united, as I hope it will be, or the parties that exist should make it a rule that no member of the Party shall be absent from the Assembly of Delhi except for very special reasons and with the permission of the executive of the party to which he belongs. A member who finds that he cannot attend the Assembly throughout the session, except on such leave as has been mentioned above, should consider himself bound in honour to offer his resignation.—Free Press.

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION.

PT. MALAVIYA'S NEW MOVE

NEW DELHI, Mar. 29.

It is understood that with a view to unite the Indian public opinion and to organise it for concerted and more effective action throughout the country, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya is consulting members of the Indian Legislatures on a proposal to form an Indian Parliamentary Association, which shall consist of the members of the provincial as well as the Central Legislature.—Free Press.

N. SOUTHWARK BY-ELECTION.

A LIBERAL SUCCESS.

LONDON, Mar. 29.

The by-election at North Southark owing to the resignation of Dr. Haden Guest from the Labour Party has resulted in the return of Mr. E. A. Strauss (Liberal) with 7,334 votes. G. Isaacs (Labour) secured 6,167 votes and Dr. Haden Guest (Independent Constitutional) 3,215.—Ruter.

20 MILLION POUNDS LOSS?

DEFICIT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING THURSDAY.

RUGBY, Mar. 28.

Financial year ends on Thursday, and until then, the amount of deficit as between the national revenues and expenditure arising from the last year's strikes will not be known. It is probable, however, that it will be smaller than was at first anticipated, and newspapers suggest that it will be between fifteen million pounds and twenty million pounds. This amount is automatically added to the floating debt.—B. O. W.

RESERVED SEATS FOR MUSLIMS

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S" COMMENT

LONDON, March 28.

After discussing the pros and cons of the system of "reserved seats," "Manchester Guardian" expresses the opinion that it is conceivable that reservation of seats for Mohammedans might prove a successful working solution of the formidable difficulty. It prefers to wait and see whether the thirty Mohammedans who have recommended the system can secure the solid support of a considerable section of their community. But if support is forthcoming, the paper thinks the Statutory Commission will be faced with a new and hopeful situation.—Ruter's Special.

DEATH OF LORD CABLE.

LONDON, Mar. 2.

The death is announced of Lord Cable.—Ruter's Special.

Lord Cable who got baronetcy in 1921 was born in 1859. Before he got his baronetcy he was known as Ernest Cable and was the senior partner of Messrs. Bird and Co., Calcutta. He was ex-Sheriff of Calcutta, a former member of the Viceroy's Council, and ex-President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and Member of the Indian Finance and Currency Commission.

FIRE IN COAL MINE.

130 MINERS PERISH.

A TOKYO TRAGEDY.

LONDON, March 28.

Tokyo.—130 miners have perished in a fire in a coal mine. 60 bodies have been recovered.—Ruter.

HARDWAR APPROVES KHARAG BAHADUR'S ACTION.

PRAYER TO GOVERNMENT TO EXERCISE CLEMENCY.

HARDWAR, Mar. 28.

At a public meeting of Hindus held here last night a resolution was passed according to its cordial approval of the action of Kharag Bahadur Singh, who has been convicted and sentenced to eight years' rigorous imprisonment, by the Calcutta High Court, in connexion with the death of Hiralal Agarwala in Calcutta. The meeting prayed to Government to exercise its clemency in the case.—Free Press.

"KIDNAPPED FROM BENARES."

RAJAKUMARI'S EVIDENCE

CALCUTTA, Mar. 28.

A petition of Rajakumari against Pandam Prasad who was charged with having sold her to deceased Hiralal Agarwala for Rs. 1,300 came up for hearing before the Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate. The petitioner's vakil drew the Magistrate's attention to the police report and prayed for judicial inquiry as the police report was in favour of the client.

Rajakumari being examined by the Magistrate said that she was living with her father in a village in Nepal from where she was brought down to Benares to her grandmother Rani Lethi through a Nepali woman and she had been kidnapped from Benares by Pandam Singh who brought her to Calcutta, kept her in the house of Hiralal, to whom she was sold for Rs. 1,300. She was not present when the money was given.

The Magistrate after going through the police report fixed the case to April 1st.—Free Press.

VICEROY AT JAMMU.

JAMMU, March 28.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Irwin arrived here this morning and had a splendid reception. Their Excellencies accompanied by the Maharaja with brilliant escort drove in an open carriage with position in blue silver through the decorated streets.—A. P.

LIMITATION OF LAND FORCES

GENEVA DISCUSSION.

LONDON, March 28.

Geneva.—The Preparatory Disarmament Committee discussed the limitation of land forces. Sato declared that he was unable to agree to the British draft convention because it would be very difficult to change the present military system of Japan. M. De Broucker (Belgium) advocated shortening of the term of military service and the reduction of military expenditure.

Mr. Paul Boncour stressed the limitation of expenditure.

Mr. Gibson said the United States had already reduced her land forces. He favoured regional agreements.

Lord Cecil regretted he was unable to persuade Mr. Paul Boncour, M. De Broucker and Sato to agree with the British views, but he would not persist in view of the necessity of unanimity.—Ruter.

THE RAILWAY BOARD SCANDAL.

WASTE AND HOPELESS INCOMPETENCE.

INDIAN WAGON INDUSTRY KILLED.

TO PATRONIZE BRITISH MANUFACTURERS: PANDIT MOTILAL'S INDICTMENT.

While giving evidence before the Royal Commission on Agriculture in October 1926 the Chief Commissioner for Railways admitted that he had a surplus of 30,000 wagons on hand. The heavy outlay of public funds for stocking useless wagons, most of them imported, and the consequent destruction of the wagon industry in India built up at great effort by the State by means of subsidies from public funds, formed the subject of a vigorous indictment by Pandit Motilal Nehru on the occasion of the Railway Budget. As this was considered generally by members of the Assembly to be the best speech made by Pandit Motilal Nehru on the floor of the Assembly, we reproduce below the portion of the speech dealing with the wagon question.

The speech was very frequently interrupted by Sir Charles Innes and members of the Railway Board who were nervous and irritated at each clean thrust, which this esteemed lawyer and the leader of the Swaraj Party made:—

"I come to the one point upon which I beg to call the attention of this House. It was touched upon by my friend Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar, but of course he had to deal with a large number of points and I think it is necessary for me to supplement his remarks upon that particular point because the House will not be able exactly to comprehend the enormity of the offence—I call it offence advisedly—of the Railway Board in the matter of wagons. Sir, until yesterday it was an admitted fact that there were 30,000 surplus wagons for which there was no use.

What was said yesterday was that for years—that fact is admitted—it had been felt that there was a surplus, and in order to make that point clear I shall refer to the answer given by the Hon. Mr. Parsons to the question put by Mr. Kelkar on the 31st January. The question was:

"Will the Government be pleased to explain how they came to have a surplus of 30,000 wagons as mentioned by Sir Clement Hindley in his evidence before the Royal Commission on Agriculture?"

The answer of the Hon. Mr. Parsons was: "The information given by Sir Clement Hindley to the Royal Commission in October, 1926."

In October 1926, I stress that— "was that there was no foundation for a complaint of shortage of wagons inasmuch as owing to improved methods of working there had been something like 30,000 wagons more than the number required for working the traffic for the previous three months."

Sir Charles Innes: The monsoon season. Pandit Motilal:—I am coming to that. The genius of Sir Charles Innes has discovered that the three months previous to October are the monsoon months:

"The number of course fluctuates from day to day, and it was not suggested that there will always be this number of wagons in excess of daily requirements. Apart from a falling off in traffic, the surplus is due to improvement made in the working of railways and also to additional facilities provided during the past few years."

The past few years! Then he gives us the main factors which have contributed to the surplus. Now this answer was given long after the monsoon had come and gone. We do not find in that list of factors given here that the monsoon also had some part to play in the matter of his surplus. But of course, as I have said, that discovery was made only yesterday, because the three months previous to October, 1926, were, as we all know, monsoon months.

5,000 IDLE WAGONS.

Now, Sir, what was the modification given yesterday? What was the alteration in the answer? It was said that that was due to the monsoon and that now all but 5,000 wagons are in use. Now, Sir, that I take at the very lowest as an admission that in this busy season there are 5,000 wagons standing idle in the yards, and therefore that at the very least there is a surplus of 5,000 wagons. Now leaving aside everything else I ask the House to consider what this surplus means. That surplus means this, and if you understand what the cost of these 5,000 wagons is. In answer to a question put by Mr. Kelkar on the same day, it was stated that the cost was Rs. 5,170 per wagon. Now, taking it roughly at Rs. 5,000 per wagon the surplus of 5,000 wagons means two and a half crores of rupees sunk and gone to the bad. I do not understand. If my arithmetic is all right, I am all right. I say, Sir, that two and a half crores have been thrown away. I mean 5,000 wagons—Rs. 2½ crores—2½ crores of rupees which they could have done without spending; at the very least I can put it at that. There were some observations made yesterday on this side of the House as to the lowest wages that were allowed to Indian workmen, and my friend, the Hon. Mr. Prakasham, took some pains to compare those wages with those prevailing in other countries. The answer which my Hon. friend, Sir Charles Innes, gave was—"I invite Mr. Prakasham to go with me to his own lands and to show me if there is anybody who gets more wages than that." Now I say, if you can afford to throw away 2½ crores of rupees on some-

thing which you may or may not want in future, can you not spend a crore or at least a few lakhs on raising the wages, the starvation wages, of these poor men? But I do not admit that it has been proved that there are only 5,000 wagons standing idle. It may be that they are moving about; we have no data to judge what service is being taken from these wagons, whether they are necessary or not. We know as a fact that in October 1926, it was stated that something like 20,000 wagons were standing idle. After October the point was noted, the fact was made public, and since then it is the easiest thing in the world to set them rolling about in several directions, in many directions. What data have we to say that a proper use is being made of these wagons? They may simply be shifting from one station to another. It is not, Sir, that I am suggesting this as a thing which does not occur to the Railway Board; things like that have occurred to the Railway Board, as was pointed out yesterday, by my honorable friend in regard to the stores. There was a reduction of stores. They were moving from one place to another and they were thus reduced. It may be said that we are over-suspicious; but when we are treated in the manner in which we have been treated, what can we do, when we are able to lay our hands upon a particular thing? Here, on your own confession you are having 30,000 wagons standing idle! The last answer to that was—the monsoon. Well, Sir, the monsoon is a thing which comes every year and goes away every year; but let us see what were the causes which were attributed for this surplusage by Mr. Parsons. I will not read the whole of it, but will give you the catchwords:

CATCHWORDS.

- (1) Reduction in the time occupied in repairing wagons.
- (2) Strengthening of tracks and bridges.
- (3) Improved marshalling yards.
- (4) Reduction of train mileage.
- (5) Extension of the use of telephone train control.
- (6) Increased speed of trains owing to the extended use of vacuum brakes.
- (7) Gradual elimination of low capacity wagons.
- (8) System of pooling collieries.

MOST HOPELESS INCOMPETENCE.

Now, Sir, let us closely examine this situation. These are the very improvements which along with the purchase of wagons formed the subject of the Rs. 150 crores programme. Any business man knowing his business who was engaged simultaneously upon all these enterprises should have worked out what the progress on one line would lead to in another, or whether these eight things have been going hand in hand ever since the year 1919 or 1920, all these things would have arrived at the development at which they are now alleged to have arrived, namely, to the extent that they reduce the number of wagons required. All these things have been going hand in hand, side by side, and it takes the Railway Board, this efficient body of men, this very practical body of men, to discover that all of a sudden they had 30,000 wagons on hand. What was this due to? Oh, it must be due to the monsoon. I say, Sir, that it is a most hopeless incompetence which is involved and implied in practical men, business men, doing special classes of business, not being able to foresee what the result of the development in one class of business would be upon the other class as the years go by. Then again, I should like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that from the year 1919 or 1920 to the 30th September 1926, no less than 61,976 wagons were purchased, and out of these I understand that not more than 6,000 were purchased in India, all the rest coming from England, so that we have nearly 6,000 wagons purchased in India and about 55,000 wagons purchased in England, and we find in October 1926, that the number of surplus wagons is 30,000. Now, in June 1926, four months before October, what was the situation? We find the Railway Board asking sanction from the Committee for Railways to purchase 5,515 additional wagons. The Railway Board was

in blissful ignorance as to what was happening, as to the causes which were contributing to lesser and lesser purchases of wagons.

My point is that up till June 1926, the Railway Board was in blissful ignorance of the true state of things. Thus in 1926 they were only just enquiring as to how things stood and if they came to know later on that they did not want any wagons they would not spend the money. That was very gracious indeed. But it is the way in which the Railway Board is expected to do its business? Are they just simply after years of purchasing from outside, not even in India, to say "Let us now see how matters stand. It may be we are purchasing more wagons than are necessary." That was in June. Four months later they find as a result of enquiries that they have as a matter of fact 30,000 wagons on hand. I do not say that the money has been spent. But I charge the Railway Board with extreme negligence and thorough incompetence. No body of people who know their business and who go about it in a business way could possibly have been in ignorance of the fact that in June when they were asking for sanction for 5,000 more wagons there was really a surplus of wagons. Of course my Hon. friend Sir Charles Innes, said that it was impossible to do constructive work without committing bona fide mistakes. Now I have had a good deal to do with that expression "bona fide."

Sir Charles Innes: I did not say "bona fide."

Pandit Motilal: I was giving more credit to my friend than he deserved. Now let us take it that the mistakes were not bona fide mistakes, they are less defensible. And I ask what does it show? It again shows their incompetence. Either they were bona fide mistakes or mistakes which a man who knows nothing about his work will commit. Now, Sir, this is not the only aspect. There is yet another aspect. That aspect is taking 15 crores of rupees out of the pockets of the taxpayer to invest them in wagons which were not required and by the exercise of ordinary diligence, ordinary business prudence, the Railway Board ought to have discovered it was unnecessary to lock up the money in these 30,000 or more wagons.

A VERY PAINFUL STORY.

There is yet another aspect of the question, and that relates to the wagon industry of India. Now, Sir, it is a very painful story. The history of this begins with the communication of 1918. I will not weary the House by reading long extracts, but I will only read just a few sentences. The Government communication, dated 1st March 1918, states:

"The Government of India have been under consideration methods of making India more independent of outside sources in the supply of railway materials. One case, in particular which they have recently examined in consultation with the Indian Engineering Association and Railway Administration is the construction of wagons in India; and, as the result of enquiries they have made, they are now able to announce that they will guarantee to purchase in India 2,500 broad gauge and 500 metre gauge narrow gauge wagons annually for ten years."

That was the solemn and definite guarantee given on the 1st of March 1918.

Now let us just see. My friend can calculate how many months before October will be the monsoon. I can also make a little calculation. My little calculation is that on the 1st of March 1918, the War was still going on. The Armistice came only in November 1918, and of course we know all the promises that were made to this country in war time. What happened to these promises after that?

That was the guarantee and then what was said was:

"The aggregate requirements of Indian railways will certainly be more than 3,000 wagons is established on a satisfactory basis, there is every reason to hope that an increasing proportion of orders will be placed in India."

That was in 1918. Then we come to 1921; and in 1921 there was another communication which said:

In pursuance of their expressed policy of making India as far as possible independent of outside sources in the supply of materials, the Government of India have had under consideration the question of construction of Locomotive Engines in India, and they are now in a position to give a general undertaking that tenders will be invited annually in India for all the railway locomotives and locomotive boilers required by the Government during the 12 years commencing 1923."

The Hon. Sir Charles Innes: That was after the War. 1921 was not war time.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: Because in those days I referred my Hon. friend to the chapter on locomotives in the First Report of the Tariff Board. There they have shown that English manufacturers could not manufacture at a price at which they could be manufactured here and in fact they were driven to the expedient of selling below cost price.

Sir Hari Singh Gour: Unemployment in England had not then commenced.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: Then came the Report of the Railway Industries Committee. That was in 1922-23. And what they said was this:

"It will now be clear why our Chairman decided that we must await the Fiscal Commission's report before submitting our own report. For we see no escape from the conclusion that the industries which we are now discussing, if they are to be developed—or rather kept alive—in India, must temporarily get some form of protection or assistance from Government. We do not think that any useful purpose would be served by our going on to examine the further

question whether special measures should be taken to develop these industries, as, for instance, by guaranteeing them orders at a price at which they can work, even though that price may exceed the price admissible under Rule 10 of the Stores Rules. The only recommendation, therefore, which we can make is that if a Tariff Board is constituted, it should consider these questions. Then the Tariff Board was constituted and this is what they said. This was of course in 1924:

"It is essential that the Indian manufacturer should have some assurance of continuity of orders, and as his capacity for carrying out work will increase as time goes on, that the numbers ordered in India should gradually rise."

Later on they say: "The Indian production this year (1925-26) will be far higher than it has even been in the past, and this is the direct result of the payment of bounties on wagons."

The administration of the bounty scheme has brought about a rapid expansion of the industry, and if there is an abrupt reversion to a more limited scale of production, part of the money already spent will have been spent in vain. If as a result of the enforcement of the limit of Rs. 7 lakhs a year, two of the wagon building firms are squeezed out and receive no orders, the bounties already paid to them will have done nothing to promote the development of the wagon building industry."

That is one aspect. What about the huge capital expended in the construction of the work?

"It would be very regrettable," they proceed, "we think, if the rapid expansion of the industry during the last twelve months were followed by a period of decline, and for this reason we have recommended that the allotments for expenditure on wagon bounties in 1926-27 and 1927-28 should be Rs. 18 lakhs in each year."

Now what do we find? We find that the bounties recommended by the Tariff Board are 18 lakhs of rupees a year, and yet there are no orders. What are the bounties to be given for? There are no wagons required, no orders are being given, and therefore there are no bounties to be had. And what is to happen to those to whom hopes were held out? What is to become of those firms? Thousands of skilled laborers are being turned out into the streets. All the capital employed goes to the wall, and why? Because the Railway Board committed a mistake in ordering more wagons than was necessary. (An Honourable Member: "And that from England?") and that from England.

INDIAN INDUSTRY KILLED.

Then I have the high testimony of the Hon. Sir Charles Innes, as to the manner in which the thing worked here. He says:

"The whole question of the wagon industry will be examined de novo this year, and will be brought up again before the House at this time next year."

That was on the 17th February, 1926, and now we are in the expected time. He also says:

"I think we can claim that as far as we have gone, the policy has been very successful. It is a fact that in the last two or three years these wagon firms have been able to increase their output in a very remarkable way."

And what is the reward they get? They are killed and liquidation is confronting them.

Now, Sir, after all this painful story, see how the subject is treated by my Honorable friend, Sir Clement Hindley, in his speech on the Railway Budget. What does he say? He says:

"The Railway Board perhaps cannot altogether escape criticism in that up to a comparative recent period this new development was not expected to materialise so rapidly."

—they are going on year after year and yet it was not expected to materialise so rapidly—

"and that we were even a year ago contemplating some necessity for addition and renewal of wagon stock. The reason was, however, that our new reliable statistics, which help us to watch matters of this kind."

—before that they were groping in the dark—"had only been established in 1924."

—even after they were established it took two years or more to be useful to the members of the Railway Board—

"and there was insignificant accurate evidence on which to form conclusions. The fact, however, has now got to be faced that we shall not have to purchase any new general service broad gauge wagons either as additions or renewals for next year and most probably for the year after as well and perhaps for some years thereafter. With all due sympathy"

—now come the crocodile tears, if I may say so, sympathy for manufacturers but accompanied with feelings of exaltation for the result—this is a very remarkable sentence and I beg the House to weigh it properly—"with all due sympathy for the people who have been expecting orders to build wagons"

—merely expecting orders as a matter of grace—"we should be rightly charged with hypocrisy if we did not regard this great saving of public money with considerable satisfaction."

Satisfaction indeed! Satisfaction at what? Satisfaction at squandering away 15 crores of rupees of the taxpayers! Satisfaction at killing home industries at the expense of patronising British industries! Satisfaction at turning out more than 5,000 skilled laborers into the streets, because no other fate awaits them after this allegation that for some years hereafter we shall not require any more wagons. At the conclusion also my friend, Sir Clement Hindley says:

"At this stage"

—he was recounting the achievements of the Railway for the year—

"perhaps I need only mention the facts that we have definitely overcome wagon shortage"

—and how? By overstocking India with

unnecessary wagons to the number of thirty thousand. That is the satisfaction. Now, Sir, I hope my Honorable friend, Mr. Cooke, will now realise what really able and competent men can do!

A DELIBERATE POLICY.

I do not think I will be true to myself if I do not on the floor of this House mention the fact that it is the common belief that all this policy was neither a mistake, bona fide or otherwise, but it was, as I hinted some time ago, due to the exigencies of what happened after the War. There was the war of 1918. Then it is commonly believed that despatches were received from England in this country, calling upon the Government of India to assist home industries in the best possible manner by obtaining as many orders as possible for these and other things. If that is so—

The Hon. Sir Charles Innes: May I contradict that statement at once, Sir?

Pandit Motilal Nehru: I am glad that my friend contradicts it.

Mr. T. C. Goswami: That is only a formal denial. There are statements actually made in Parliament which tend to prove it.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: But if the brief is wrong I say it is wholly exposable and pardonable, if it is not actually true.

Now, Sir, this is the story of the wagons. But is this all? As I have said, many other points have been discussed in this House, and many more will be discussed. On the top of the wagon story comes the Raven Committee's revelations. There again my friend, Sir Charles Innes, took credit for his bravery and frankness and courage. He invited the Raven Committee to go into the matters and the report of that Committee is in the hands of every one. I do admire that courage, but I would admire my friend, Sir Charles Innes' courage more if he would devise means to compensate India for the loss that is sustained by these wagons.

RAILWAY LORD'S LUXURIOUS TRAVELLING.

Now all these things are going on and what are our Railway lords doing? Going about in special trains. It so happened when I was going from pillar to post in travelling by all sort of conveyances, bullock carts included, I arrived one afternoon at Khandwa station, there being a breakdown of my motor car. And what did I find? A special train glittering in white and gold. I thought it was the Viceroy, but I knew that His Excellency the Viceroy was not travelling at that time. I looked from my waiting room and was told that it was the Railway Board Special. Then I peeped out and what did I see? I saw all the Railway officials, drawn up on the platform, even the choicest Babu having provided himself with a pair of trousers for the occasion, and they were all there as a guard of honour for the Members of the Railway Board. They came, they saw, they conquered, and after ten minutes when I peeped out again, I saw the train had gone. That was the luxury way in which they were travelling, and this is the Account they give of what they have been doing after the high salaries they draw and the luxuries which they enjoy. I need not repeat the few things that have been laid before the House. I say this question of wagons alone is sufficient to condemn any Railway Board. Of course, there are other things which I have no doubt other members will develop. I have taken a good long time and I do not wish to keep the House for any length of time more. There is, for instance, the coal scandal connected with the name of Mr. Church the engineer. Then there is the North Western Railway underframe scandal, rejected after being made.

The Hon. Sir Charles Innes: What is the scandal?

Pandit Motilal Nehru: Underframes made by a Calcutta firm.

The Hon. Sir Charles Innes: An Indian firm.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: Yes, made by an Indian firm on a wrong specification evolved by the consulting engineers of the Railway Board, and when this consignment is delivered, they find it has to be rejected, involving the loss of several lakhs of rupees. It is an Indian firm who did it, but the Indian firm only conformed to the specifications of the Board's engineers. What happened was that these frames, when they were delivered, were found to be wholly unsuitable and had to be rejected.

Mr. K. K. Shammukham Chetty: Because they were not British steel frames?

BROKEN PROMISES.

Pandit Motilal Nehru: Then there is the question of an Indian member of the Railway Board, as my friend Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar pointed out. It is not one member, but we must have a majority of Indian members (Swarajist applause). In that matter two definite promises have been broken. I call them definite promises and I can assure my friends on the opposite side that this side of the House will never be satisfied unless, not only one, but more than one member of the Railway Board are Indians, taken from among people who enjoy the confidence of the people, and not merely from a restricted field of selection on the pretence of having special knowledge. I quite agree with my friend that no special knowledge is necessary, no technical knowledge is necessary to be a member of the Railway Board. It is a regular business. I say that the high officials of the Finance Department, who know their business, would any day do it better than the present members of the Railway Board. Indeed, it is a question of laying down policies, which after all is the business of the top of the administration. The top of the administration is not required to know how to mark a sledge hammer or what to do with an engine. I do not know whether I am safe in saying that perhaps Sir Clement Hindley does not know how to drive an engine—oh! he does. No technical knowledge is necessary; what is necessary is a business head, the ability to foresee things, to foresee the legitimate consequences of business enterprises and to fit one department of business into another so that they may collaborate and work together and not independently and be a burden to the taxpayer. That is what is wanted and for that any man who



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knows his business, who carries his head on his shoulders and has had a training in various departments of the Government, and knows how they work, will be enough. Your Finance Department, I am glad to say, today is an example of efficiency to other departments working under the Government of India and there are any number of people who would be available if you simply go and select your men from a wider field. However it is not for me to say where the man should come from and who he should be, nor who he should not be. What I say, is, it is a mere pretence to say men are not available. Now, Sir, I do not wish to go on any longer. What I will say is that the story that I have given, the facts that I have placed before the House, only show one thing, and that that after incompetence, gross negligence, and utter disregard of the taxpayer are written large on the administration of the Railway Board. Sir, there is something rotten in the State of Denmark, and I submit that the Railway Board must be subjected to a very searching inquiry, in all their legitimate departments, and I have not the least doubt that, if that is done, revelations not less startling than the Raven Committee revelations will be revealed.

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FREE AND COMPULSO- RY EDUCATION

ESSENTIAL FOR RURAL
RECONSTRUCTION.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF CO-OPERA- TIVE MOVEMENT.

The following is the concluding portion of the evidence before the Agricultural Commission, of Mr. Vaikunt L. Mehta, Managing Director of the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Bank, on behalf of its Board of Directors:

Most of the directions in which the Board would like to see Government encourage the growth of the co-operative movement have been referred to in replies to previous questions. In the forefront of this programme, the Board would place the guaranteeing of the debentures of land mortgage banks, the recognition of these bonds as trustee securities and the subscription of a portion of the share capital in the initial stages. Next in importance comes the grant of subsidies to provincial bodies like the Provincial Co-operative Institute, Bombay, for education and propaganda. It is neither possible nor desirable for the State to undertake this work of propaganda, and what we require for this purpose are voluntary organizations liberally assisted by the State. The third requirement is the provision of free audit by Government for primary agricultural societies with unlimited liability until such time as witnesses the introduction of free and compulsory education throughout the country. That is one of the obligations which, in the opinion of the Board, Government must shoulder for their neglect of primary education.

RELEASE FROM OFFICIAL LEADING STRINGS.

Non-official agencies can themselves do little unless their status is recognized by Government and Government appreciate the role that these play in the furtherance of the co-operative movement. To this end, the Co-operative Department should confine its attention to its statutory functions, judicial and quasi-judicial duties, keeping under its control the work of registration, audit, inquiry, arbitration and liquidation. Other duties and powers may gradually be delegated to self-governing co-operative bodies. This is especially necessary in the determination of the policy of the movement which function should not be entrusted to a single individual or a Department of Government but, within the limitations laid down by the law, should be controlled by co-operative institutions themselves within a province, expressing their views through their central representative bodies. It is only when this free initiative is left to co-operative organizations that the people's leaders will associate themselves with the movement. Such association cannot but impart life and vigour to the movement.

There should be co-ordination in the work of co-operative credit and purchase and sale so that the utilization of credit can be watched and the recovery of loans from the out-turn of the crops facilitated. If systematic finance is provided on this basis and close and careful supervision is secured through local unions, the Board would strongly urge the removal of the arbitrary limit on advances to individuals which figures at present in the bye-laws of agricultural credit societies.

WHAT CO-OPERATION HAS ACHIEVED.

Hitherto in India the main achievement of co-operation has been in the sphere of a agricultural credit. Although it will be too much to assert that the objects for which co-operative credit

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societies were started have been attained there is no doubt that in all centres where co-operative credit has been at work for a fairly long period and under fairly normal conditions certain tangible advantages have been secured. Prominent among these is the holding forth before the agricultural population of a hope for their economic salvation through organization and of the possibility of revivifying rural life. Local rates of interest are known to have been reduced as a result of the introduction of this new factor in rural economic life and the money-lenders' exactions diminished, if not eliminated. The old system of rural credit which was disrupted as a consequence of the agrarian legislation enacted at the beginning of the century is being reorganized on a new, more stable, and more equitable basis. A considerable amount of capital has been raised by the compulsory savings of members of societies, and in this Presidency and in the Punjab by their voluntary action also. In the sphere of agricultural marketing, it has been found that arbitrary imposts have occasionally been abolished, proper weighments guaranteed, disputes with buyers settled satisfactorily, stocking of goods for better prices facilitated, and especially in respect of the sale of cotton the advantages of sale in wholesale markets and of proper prices for improved varieties secured. Co-operative supply agencies have conferred the benefits of proper weighments, purity of goods, and whole-sale prices to those who deal with them. What is more important, the movement has awakened agriculturists to a realization of their rights vis-a-vis traders and money-lenders and thus achieved some measure of success in instilling business habits. In areas and in lines of business where the rendering of accounts was unknown two decades ago, the issue of detailed statements of accounts by money lenders and tradesmen to their customers is now not uncommon.

WANTED FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

From the observations the Board have made in their replies to a majority of the foregoing questions it will be clear that they are emphatically of opinion that the one thing above all others that is necessary to pave the way to a progressive rural India is the immediate and universal introduction of a system of free and compulsory primary education. If it is objected that the introduction of primary education is of no value in stimulating interest in agriculture, the reply is that the system of instruction—the courses and subjects of study, the hours of work, the seasonal vacations, the training of teachers—should all be so devised as to satisfy the supreme need of turning out a better generation of agriculturists. With a fair level of literacy prevailing in villages, agriculturists do not now relapse into illiteracy some time after leaving school, and they will not do so, in the future, with the printed word so keenly demanding their attention as it has now begun to do. One method of retaining interest in agriculture is to impart an agricultural or rather rural bias to the schools.

REVIVE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

(Continued from page 6.)

a school of journalism; study clubs for men in public life (6) Co-ordination of Industrial and technical training with employers' organizations (Government and private) (7) Prize arrangements for developing a spirit for and a training of indigenous talent towards machinery making and commercial invention and (8) Organization of an Education Board, to give effect to the policy laid down by the Conference co-ordinating all educational agencies, Government and private.

Differences there will be on many a question when the Conference actually meets, but there is no other suitable method to ascertain public opinion, and to settle differences where they exist. Organizing such a Conference is a virtual necessity for the Ministers in developing their policy and programme and if they seriously aim at evolving a workable machinery out of the factors independent of their departments, they will succeed in securing the help of a much desired non-official secretariat for themselves.

We have already gone through the process of organising parties of opposition, but that was comparatively a simple matter. The process of organizing and developing Ministerial parties, without sacrifice of national interests and in fact furthering national policies, through narrow gates, reluctantly opened and powerfully guarded, is admittedly more complex and will tax all the tact and resourcefulness of those who have undertaken this heavy responsibility. The first remedy for any Minister is to take the people into his confidence, disarm opposition, remove misunderstandings, explain practically the difficulties in the way and ultimately evolve some constructive proposition to the best of his ability and means.

I hope and trust that Diwan Bahadur Harilalbai will gladly follow and profitably improve upon the useful example, set by his honourable colleague Shri Gulum Hussain. Let us have an Educational Conference, along with the second Local-self-government Conference, due in July next.



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LOCAL BOARDS IN SIND.

(Continued from page 6.)

Muslim majority in the board gave the contract to the Mahomedan and realised less amount as rent of the bungalow and made the board suffer a loss in revenue. I find that many people outside Sind have a very vague idea of how things are going on in that part of the Presidency and owing to this inadequacy of information they are led into expression of opinions regarding Sind and Sind affairs which would undergo a substantial change if they were in more intimate touch with the local conditions.—Yours etc.

"Facts"

Preparations are being made for the second Hindu Provincial Sammelan, to be held at Sukkur towards the end of April. Some leading Hindus, including Lala Lajpat Rai, have signified their intention to attend. Committees have also been formed to organise, along with the Sammelan, a local self-government conference, Educational Conference, Zemindars' Conference, and Panabayat Reorganisation Conference.—A. P.

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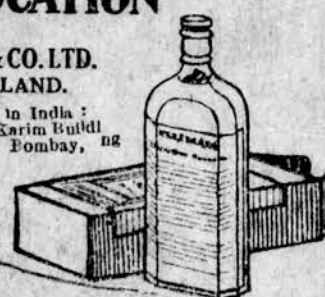
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TOWARDS A NEW
PACT

THE PUNJABI VIEW POINT

PROF SAHNI'S QUESTIONS
TO LEADERS

Every Indian would heartily welcome the recent decision of Muslim leaders to agree to joint electorates. Some of us on this side of India are quite at one with Sir Sankaran Nair that no constitutional advance would be worth much so long as the principle of communal representation is not banished altogether from the Reforms Act. A common electorate is the first step towards that happy consummation. I personally hold that a constitution based on communal representation is no constitution at all; it is the very negation of constitution. But this question is foreign to my present purpose.

While welcoming the decision of our friends and thanking them for their patriotic advance towards a settlement, I would beseech the Congress leaders not to be in a hurry to express any decided views of their own upon the Muslim proposals. There were not a few in the Punjab who shook their heads when the Lucknow Pact was made. I personally held strong views about it. I considered it a blunder. I distinctly remember the picture that I formed before my eyes. I likened ourselves to a block of mica the several strata of which were being "consolidated" under the "pressure" of circumstances. In that block the pact would serve the purpose. I said to myself of a knife separating layer from layer. I was then in Government service and could not speak out my mind. I did speak out after I was free.

PUNJABI POINT OF VIEW.

In the decision of this question views of the Punjab—Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs—should count for a great deal more than the views of any other province. No settlement will be of any value which the Punjab as a whole does not carefully accept. It is much better that we should remain where we are for some time longer, much better even that we should be fighting with each other, than that we should commit a second and possibly a graver blunder. The Congress leaders unfortunately do not know the mind of the Punjab. Let them come and hear for themselves what the Punjab has got to say.

Is it not strange that we have been hearing of Congress-Muslim and even of Hindu-Muslim "conversations" going on at Delhi during the past two months, but we have not heard a whisper about the Sikhs in the Punjab? What is to be their position? Do we not know what the Sikhs said and did after the Lucknow Pact? The plain fact is the Congress leaders do not know, they do not understand the Punjab. On what ground are the Sikh and Hindus, minorities in the Punjab, to be denied the same excessive representation as is allowed to the Muslims in other Provinces? Have we not avoided answering this plain question, which has been asked again and again, that the Muslim leaders have excluded the Punjab from their proposals about minorities? Am I glad some of the Congress leaders soon be amongst us, though in the connection. I hope they will find it hard to have heart-to-heart talks with Hindus and Sikhs, as they have been with Muslim leaders.—"The Times."

HAND-SPINNING IN JAIL

DISCUSSION RAISED IN MADRAS COUNCIL

A strong plea to introduce hand-spinning in jails with a view to produce Khaddar was put forward by the non-official members in supporting a token cut motion under the supplementary demand for stationary and printing.

Mr. Venkatraman moving the cut recommended that the cloth bought for men in the Printing Department should be hand-spun khaddar.

The Chief Minister pleaded inability to accept the motion as the cloth bought under this head was bought from jails and jails used mill yarn.

The Swarajist member sympathized with the Minister for professing sympathy with spinning movement in prison, and out of season, but to shift the responsibility to somebody else when the time came for practical help. What is the use of Ministers, demanded Mr. Saldana if they cannot compel the Revenue Board to bow to popular will on this matter.

Mr. Moir opposing the motion said the industries in jails had been planned so as not to compete with those outside and would it be fair, he asked, if the State should use its own powers to compete with the great mill industry and handloom weaving industry.

The motion was then withdrawn and the demand passed.—Free Press.

DEPRESSION MOVES TO N. E. PUNJAB

Simla, March 20.
The depression has moved to the north-east Punjab and has caused widespread and locally heavy rain in Kashmir, and a few falls in the North-west Frontier Province and the Punjab Hills. It has produced extensive duststorms in North-west India. A few falls are also reported from Assam.

Chief amount are: Dibrugarh and Srinagar three quarters of an inch each, Sonamarg three and Murren and Dosh half an inch.

Forecast—Extension along the Punjab frontiers, but no rain in the Punjab hills or the plains.

INDIAN STATES OF
GOVT. OF INDIA.MR. PANIKKAR'S BOOK ON
THEIR RELATIONSHIP.AN OPPORTUNE
PUBLICATION.

Messrs. Martin Hopkinson and Company, Ltd., London, have brought out a new book by Mr. K. M. Panikkar on "The Relations of Indian States with the Government of India." Mr. Panikkar attempts in this book to state from historical and constitutional point of view the exact relationship in which the great Indian Rulers stand. His book is an earnest plea for the maintenance of the just and historical rights of the princes subject to the paramount necessities of Indian unity.

In the course of a Foreword to the book Lord Olivier writes:—

"With the double qualification of high academic distinction and experience as a journalist, Mr. Panikkar has produced at a very opportune moment a study of the relations of Indian States with the Government of India which is both admirably arranged, and developed, and very lucidly, concisely and pleasantly written."

The moment is opportune because during the course of the next two years if the British Indian Government is as well advised as it may reasonably be hoped it will be very far reaching survey and examination of constitutional questions in India must be taken in hand as a preparation for that further revision of the constitution of the Government of India established in 1919 on the basis of the Montague-Chelmsford Report which will be due in 1928. Mr. Panikkar's book exhibits, with a remarkable wealth of historical references and exercise of judicious discrimination, the extreme complexity of the questions involved in the problem of incorporating the Native States in the system of National Government. In view of the immense mass of questions that will have to be dealt with by the Statutory Commission to be appointed before 1920 it appears to the writer urgent that the materials for studying this double question of federal delegation and provincial autonomy should be early taken in hand. Mr. Panikkar's book affords a most valuable and suggestive survey of the whole of the ground to be dealt with both in the historical and constitutional aspects.—"The Swarajya."

"RANJIT"

AS A RULER.

Writes from Jampagar that the late Maharaja Sahib of Nawanganagar will on the twentieth year of his rule, and the following pen picture of him.

He does not know H. H. Maharaja Jam Sahib of Nawanganagar? Kathiawar is really a host of him, not merely because as a ruler of genius he opened the eyes of his subjects to the great capacity, but also because he has shown great courage combined with marked ability in fighting against the obstacles which prevented hitherto the growth of Indian States and debarred them from their legitimate rights.

The social qualities of His Highness are well-known. His manners are charming. He can hold his own in any society. As a host he is perfect and as a man of the world he would impress any one who has been in his company for a short while. But it is doubtful whether it is equally well-known that he can safely see through any cause that he chooses to take in hand. The Jam Sahib is a born advocate and can put to shame many who have practised in the Courts and achieved fame, in their own art. The Jam Sahib's advocacy however has been turned to practical ends. He has by means of it justified such actions of his which may have appeared to be questionable either to his subjects or to Government. There is no wish to enter into details but the great Amran case may well be referred to as an illustration. His success is entirely due to the genius of the Jam Sahib and it may be safely said that he and he only could have steered it safe from all the troubled waters through which it passed.

As a Ruler, notwithstanding opinions to the contrary, it is generally believed that he has the good of his subjects and the prosperity of his State keenly at heart. He has done things which in popular talk savoured of oppression. But their merits apart none of them, with perhaps a few exceptions affected the general well of his subjects. But of late, His Highness' policy, whatever it may have been in the earlier years of his reign, is calculated to advance his State and his subjects. In the matter of his Ports, of Customs, and of other Imperial questions, he has shown a bold front and vindicated the rights of Indian States, for which he deserves unstinted praise and gratitude of all, whose lot is cast in Indian States. In this policy people of Kathiawar wish him all success, for the very best of reasons that it opens avenues for the subjects of Indian States which till now were absolutely closed.

As to his frequent visits to Europe, they may be condoned in this case as the minimization of his State does not suffer thereby. Though so far away he keeps a watchful eye on what is going on in the State.

The name of the "Dar-ul-Alam Tibbia, Patiala" has been changed to that of "Bhupindra Tibbia College Patiala." All communications, therefore, may be addressed to the latter name.

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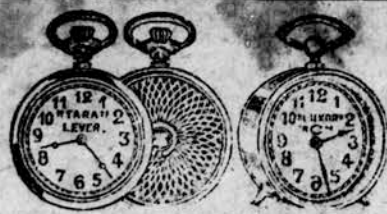
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